Monday, October 1, 2012 ★★ 14 sections / Vol. 27 / No. 295 P16 | Mobile Alerts: Text INQ ON BREAKING to 4467 | www.inquirer.net Twitter: @inquirerdotnet | Inquirer Subscription Hotline Twitter: @inquirersub

FAST FACTS 2013 ELECTIONS

18,053
Total Elective Posts

12	Senators
233	District Representatives
58	Party-list Representatives
80	Provincial Governors
80	Provincial Vice Governors
766	Members, Sangguniang Panlalawigan
143	City Mayors
143	City Vice Mayors
1,598	Members, Sangguniang Panlungsod
1,491	Municipal Mayors
1,491	Municipal Vice Mayors
11,932	Members, Sangguniang Bayan
1	ARMM Regional Governor
1	ARMM Regional Vice Governor
24	ARMM Regional Assemblymen

Oct. 1, 2012 to Oct. 5, 2012: Schedule of filing of Certificates of Candidacy for all elective positions

Oct. 04, 2012: Last day for local notary to file applications for registration, transfer of records, reactivation and correction of entries; deadline for overseas Filipinos to file applications for registration or certifications as overseas voters

Feb. 13, 2013 to May 11, 2013: Campaign period for candidates for senators and for party-list groups

March 26, 2013 to May 11, 2013: Campaign period for candidates for the House of Representatives and elective regional, provincial, city and municipal officials

April 13, 2013 to May 10, 2013: Casting of votes by overseas voters

May 13, 2013: Election day

INQUIRER RESEARCH

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Sto. Domingo Church keeps rich cultural heritage

By Jocelyn R. Uy

THE BAROQUE structure, with its mix of modern and Gothic architecture, never fails to arouse attention and reverence.

Rightly so, for behind this Domingo Church's facade of intricately carved panels and stained glass windows lie a treasure trove of the Philippines' rich cultural heritage and the object of centuries-old devotion, the image of Our Lady of the Rosary of La Naval, the oldest Marian icon in the country.

The La Naval image has been the object of Filipino devotion that dates back to the 16th century and the icon's shrine in Quezon City is host to an annual feast that culminates in a procession that draws tens of thousands of devotees.

On Oct. 8, ahead of the feast and coinciding with the traditional enthronement of La Naval, the National Museum will declare Sto. Domingo Church and all its liturgical

STO. DOMINGO /A23

La Naval shrine to be declared National Treasure / F1

IMAGE of Our Lady of the Rosary of La Naval, oldest Marian icon in the country, is kept at Sto. Domingo Church in Quezon City. MARY GIRL

Same faces but new foes

Fanfare ushers in election season

By Jocelyn R. Uy

POLITICIANS troop to the Commission on Elections (Comelec) today to register as candidates in next year's midterm elections, the first under the Aquino administration.

Also today, President Aquino will introduce to the public his senatorial candidates at Club Filipino, the same place where his mother, President Corazon Aquino, took her oath of office at the height of the Edsa People Power Revolution in February 1986.

The minimally opposition group United Nationalist Alliance (UNA), led by Vice President Jejomar Binay, former President Joseph Estrada and Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, will launch its senatorial ticket at Manila Hotel, a favorite hangout of the political

NAMARE /A10

PDI launches Inquirer Tab today

By JV Rubio
Director, Inquirer Mobile

IN ANOTHER first for the Inquirer Group, the Philippine Daily Inquirer launches today the Inquirer Tab, a tablet device bundled with an all-inclusive subscription to the group's Digital Newsstand for computers, tablets and smartphones.

Powered by Google's Android operating system and made by Huawei, the Inquirer Tab comes free with a two-year subscription

PDI LAUNCHES /A31

Political dynasties dominate electoral contests

By Inquirer Bureau

THE ELECTORAL matchups in many parts of the country for 2013 show veteran politicians returning to the campaign trail to protect turf or to reclaim their old posts.

Bandilan long entrenched in local politics are also asserting their strength in next year's elections.

Politicians may have switched parties but virtually the same faces and names will file their certificates of candidacy (COCs) starting today.

The Marcoses of Ilocos Norte, Singsons of Ilocos Sur, Ortegas of La Union and Dys of Isabela are up for reelection. In Aurora, the Angaras are consolidating power in their home province, with family members also vying for seats in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Outgoing Sen. Edgardo Angara of Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino and Vice Gov. Gerardo Noveras of the Liberal Party (LP) are likely to square off in the gubernatorial race.

Outgoing Gov. Bellaflor Angara-Castillo, the senator's sister, is returning to the House to replace her nephew, Rep. Juan Edgardo Angara, who is running for senator under the LP.

In Pampanga, Gov. Lilia Pineda

SAME FACES /A11

Some LP members ask: Where are new faces? /A2

RUN FOR PASIG RIVER Some 100,000 runners join the 5-kilometer "Run, Ride and Roll for the Pasig River" along Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City. EDWARD ECHO

Juana Change also goes to Comelec for EPaL bid

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

SATIRE goes to the Commission on Elections (Comelec) today.

Juana Change (theater star Tirso personality Max Mariel) will file her certificate of candidacy (COC) at the Comelec in Manila as representative of the

JUANA CHANGE /A11

Enrile's memoir: Story of sorcerer's apprentice

By Amando Doronila

CANBERRA—Juan Ponce Enrile is indispensably the only Filipino politician who has held power at its apex for 46 years, bridging six presidential regimes since the 1960s.

ANALYSIS

Enrile's grip of power shuttled two extreme systems of governance—the dictatorship installed by Ferdinand Marcos in 1972 and the restoration of the

ENRILE'S /A21

'Give money back to farmers'

By Fernando del Mundo
Cbeg i-Team

SEN. JOKER Arroyo compares the travails of the coconut farmers on the cusp of recovering some P100 billion in coconut levy-derived tax to that of "The Little Red Hen."

In the folktale, the hen finds a grain of wheat. She then asks animals in the barn who wants to help her plant the grain.

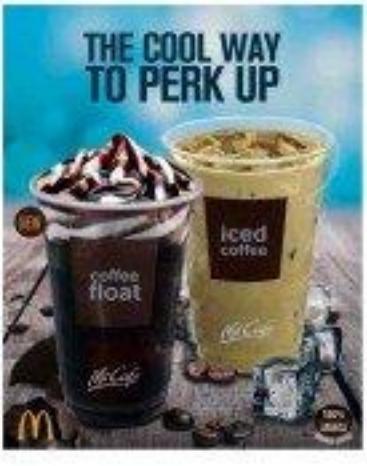
"Not I," pants the cat. "Not I," barks the dog. "Not I," quacks the duck.

"Then, I will," says the hen.

And so the exchange goes on through the growing, harvesting, milling and finally baking the bread. When all is said and done, the hen asks, "Who will help me eat the bread?" The chorus is, "I will."

Arroyo says that's exactly where coconut farmers stand today, after the Supreme Court unanimously ruled last week that 24 percent of sequestered shares of stock in San Miguel Corp. (SMC) acquired with proceeds of a coconut levy tax imposed from 1973 to 1982 belonged to the government and should now be used for the

GIVE /A20



BUSINESS
Study says stressed PH workforce ready to crack / B6

LIFESTYLE
J.K. Rowling's new novel after 'Harry Potter' is not for kids / D1

LEARNING
Teachers thank their teachers / H1

SUPPLEMENT
China's 63rd founding year / B4-1

Second FRONTPAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

[illegible]

6/49 Premium
26 5 8 9 7 11

SUPERLOTTO 6/45
8 7 6 2 6 2

6 3 4

SUPER LOTTO 6/42
1 17 33 37 44 45
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LOTTO TIPS? Text LOTTO, send to 4407. P1.50/short

Some LPs ask: Where are new faces?

By Lolo B. Salaverria and Gil Cabuenyan

NOT ALL Liberal Party (LP) members are happy with the ruling coalition's senatorial slate, which consists of only three LP members, two of them only recently sworn in.

Why could not the LP President Aquino's party, field homegrown, long-term members, unsullied some party members. Others defended the LP leadership's decision, saying "winnability" was more important than tenure in the party.

Only three LP members made it to the administration coalition slate—former Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr. and newly sworn in members Jun[illegible] Madrigal, herself a former senator, and Paolo Benigno Aquino, the President's cousin.

The rest of the administration slate is made up of candidates from its alliance partners the Nacionalista Party and Nacionalista People's Coalition, as well as candidates from Akbayan, Partido Demokratiko Pilipino-Lakas ng Bayan and Lakas ng Demokratikong Pilipino.

Bagao Rep. Teddy Baguilat said the LP will fit stints as the party in power and with a popular President, could have pushed for and increased the profile of its own members in the senatorial elections, instead of coalescing with too many parties and fielding "the same old names."

"I think this would have been the most opportune time for the LP to develop party stalwarts and true liberals like [Quezon Rep.] Erin Tañada and [former] Gov. Grace Padaca as senators," Baguilat said yesterday.

Baguilat wondered as well if party members would campaign for "a slate that does not look like it came from the LP at all."

But LP official Neptali Gonzales II defended the choice of candidates. He said the longevity of an official in the LP should not be a factor in choosing candidates. What's important is they were willing to become part of the team and have endorsed its principles, Gonzales said.

He said that in deciding on its senatorial candidates, the party had to face political realities and consider "winnability."

"You also have to be realistic. It's not enough that you want to run, if you're just going to waste money and time. While in a way we are the break and crab-in mentality, being a dominant party serves as a good indication and a guide. We all know how costly a senatorial campaign can be," he said.

Another LP member, Eastern Samar Rep. Ben Evardone, said party members should respect the decision of the LP leaders. He said the choice of newly sworn-in candidates "doesn't mean the LP is a frail group."

"It's not a sign of weakness because we have national and local leaders who are credible and capable," Evardone said.

Aside from Magsaysay, Madrigal and the young Aquino, the LP-NPC senatorial slate includes reelectionist senators Loren Legarda, Francis Escudero, Alan Peter Cayetano, Aquilino Pimentel III and Pia Cayetano; Defensor Dr. Aurora Rep. Juan Edgardo Angara; former Las Piñas Rep. Cynthia Villar; Akbayan party-list member Risa Hontiveros, and senators-elect Grace Poe Llamanzares.

Bagac Bataan party-list Rep. Teddy Casiño derided the two rival coalitions for fielding old names and faces who are unlikely to bring a new vision to the Senate. "Is there no new vibe?" he asked in a statement.

"Same old, same old," was the reaction of ACT Teachers party-list Rep. Antonio Tinio.

Gren Ejercito Estrada Belmonte Jr., LP vice chair but who did not participate in the selection process, said: "Our wishes there were more new faces."

"Unfortunately, name recognition and money will really determine this senatorial race. There are lots of good candidates out there who could win if voters were more informed and elections were not so expensive," said Akbayan party-list Rep. Walden Bello.

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*All data and information from clinical tests conducted by Alschin Palermi, M.D., as published in the Journal of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, volume 34 pages 577-582.

*Pictured is one person per month after individual results will vary. [illegible]

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JPE proclaims Binay for '16

DAVAO CITY—Senate President Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada on Saturday openly threw his support behind Vice President Jejomar Binay's bid for president in 2016.

To an enthusiastic 10-minute speech at the Iloilo provincial and city convention of the United Nationalist Alliance (UNA), Estrada said Binay would bring genuine change to the country.

"I have been in politics for almost 50 years and I have seen all kinds of leaders, from (President Manuel) Quezon up to now. I am sure that (if [illegible]) will lead the Philippines, the country will develop, will become respectable in Asia and the whole world," Estrada—flush winners of UNA, said.

Estrada said next year's elections would hardly affect the presidential election in 2016.

"These two elections cannot be separated. One is a certain token for the next election in 2016. That's why the one who is leading the (Vice) Binay's bosses he will be the next[illegible] in 2016 and he will be the president," Estrada said, drawing cheers from around 1,000 candidates and new members of UNA.

UNA is a coalition of PDP-Laban headed by Binay and the Pwersa ng Masang Pilipino headed by deposed President Joseph Estrada.

Stung by his rout, and by was confident UNA candidates would win in next year's elections.

"I am the example," he said, referring to his surprise win in 2013 over then-Interior Minister "Mar" Roxas II, President Aquino's running mate in the[illegible] *Kristel P. Barjen Jr., Inquirer Visayas*

Pagasa spots another LPA

THE PHILIPPINE Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) is closely monitoring a low pressure area (LPA) that could develop into a tropical depression as it slowly moves toward the Philippine area of responsibility (PAR).

Weather forecaster Samuel Duran told the business the LPA was spotted over the West Philippine Sea, some 670 kilometers west of Luzon.

"It is moving closer to the PAR although it is almost stationary. The LPA could intensify and enter the PAR," the weather forecaster said.

He said the LPA could either develop into a tropical depression or dissipate. Should it intensify into a tropical depression upon entering the PAR, it would be called "Maring."

On the other hand, the monsoon trough, which is to affect over Luzon, is anticipated to bring occasional moderate to heavy rains and thunderstorms over Cagayan, Isabela and the Cordillera Administrative Region.

The trough would also bring occasional light to moderate rains and thunderstorms over Metro Manila, Central Luzon, the Bicol region and the rest of the Cagayan Valley.

Duran explained that the monsoon trough is an extension of the intertropical convergence zone.

Pagasa said the surge of strong to gale force winds brought by Typhoon "Lawin" (international name: Jelawat), which has left the PAR, had weakened. *Antonette C. Andrade*

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday - October 1, 2012
26th Week in Ordinary Time
Thérèse of the Child Jesus

1st Reading: Jb 1:6-22

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before Yahweh, and Satan came with them. Yahweh asked Satan, "Where have you been?"

Satan answered, "Going up and down the earth, roaming about."

Yahweh asked again, "Have you noticed my servant Job? No one on earth is as blameless and upright as he, a man who fears God and avoids evil."

But Satan resented the question. "Does Job fear God for nothing? Have you not built a protective wall around him and his family and all his possessions? You have blessed and prospered him, with his livestock all over the land. But stretch out your hand and strike where his riches are, and I bet he will curse you as your face."

Yahweh said to Satan, "Very well, all that he has is in your power. But do not lay a finger upon the man himself." So Satan left the presence of Yahweh.

One day, while his sons and daughters were feasting in the house of their elder brother, a messenger came to Job and said, "Your oxen were plowing, and your donkeys were grazing nearby, when the Sabaeans came and carried them off. They killed the herdsmen. I alone escaped to tell you."

While he was still speaking, another messenger came, "God's fire fell from the sky and burned all your sheep and the shepherds as well. I alone have escaped to tell you."

He had hardly finished speaking when another messenger arrived, "Three raiding bands of Chaldaeans have killed your servants and carried off your camels. I alone have escaped to tell you."

He was still speaking when another one, a third one came and said to Job, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking in the house of their eldest brother when suddenly a gale wind blew across the desert and struck the house. It collapsed on the young people and they all died. I alone have escaped to tell you."

At this Job rose his clothes and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground and worshiped, saying,

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, naked shall I return.

Yahweh gave, Yahweh has taken away. Blessed be his name!"

In spite of this calamity, Job did not sin by blaspheming God.

Gospel: Luke 9:46-50

One day the disciples were arguing about which of them was the most important. But Jesus knew their thoughts, so he took a little child and stood him by his side. Then he said to them, "Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me, welcomes the one who sent me. And listen: The one who is found to be the least among you all, is the one who is the greatest."

Then John spoke up, "Master, we saw someone who drove out demons by calling upon your name, and we tried to forbid him because he doesn't follow you with us." But Jesus said, "Don't forbid him, for who is not against you is for you."

Reflection

The disciples of Jesus, like all of us, had the same problem. They were "arguing about which of them was the most important." Jesus took a child and said, "you must become like children." Children were not overindulged in those days: A child was somebody You must become nobody; then there will be room in you for you—and for all the others.

Theological Communications Foundation Inc., 8 Bayanan Street, EP Village, Bulacan, 3102. Contact info: (02) 911-0068, 911-0069, (02) 911-0070, e-mail: ..., www.thedailygospel.com, info@thedailygospel.com

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More Marines, new HQ to Spratlys' defense

THE PHILIPPINES has deployed an additional 400 Marines and opened a new headquarters to guard its interests in the disputed Spratly Islands, which China also claims, a senior military official said yesterday.

Armed Forces Western Command chief Lt. Gen. Jacinto Ligot said the deployment was only meant to a defensive measure and should not be seen as an aggressive move.

"These are redundant which are not normally staff for augmenting personnel of our islands," Ligot said AFP.

"We are just on a defensive posture. It is better to defend than retake to back once other elaborate occupy them."

He said a Marine brigade headquarters had also been ensured on the north Philippine province of Palawan, facing the West Philippine Sea, "to provide command and control" over the forces.

The Marines will not be stationed on the Spratlys but will patrol nearby. "We are not closer to create a situation where it will lead to an accidental conflict and escalate into a regional problem," Ligot stressed. AFP

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- 2 Corinthians 5:1
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Fuel prices move

MANILA (AP) — Shell Philippines Corp. and Petron Corp. said over the weekend they would raise the prices of some fuel products and lessen rebates to reflect trends in the international oil market.

Shell will roll back diesel prices by 20 centavos a liter and kerosene by 25 centavos a liter effective 6 a.m. today. However, it will raise the prices of unleaded gasoline by 30 centavos a liter and regular gasoline by 25 centavos a liter.

Petron will roll back Turbo Diesel and FuelMax prices by 30 centavos per liter and kerosene by 25 centavos per liter. However, premium prices for Blaze 100, 95% Plus and 91 will increase by 30 centavos per liter while Blaze gasoline and regular gasoline prices will increase by 25 centavos per liter.

The Department of Energy's Oil Price Monitor report said the world's crude-based commodity price rose this Monday, driven by several factors as buying the global oil market. Alice T. Olchondra

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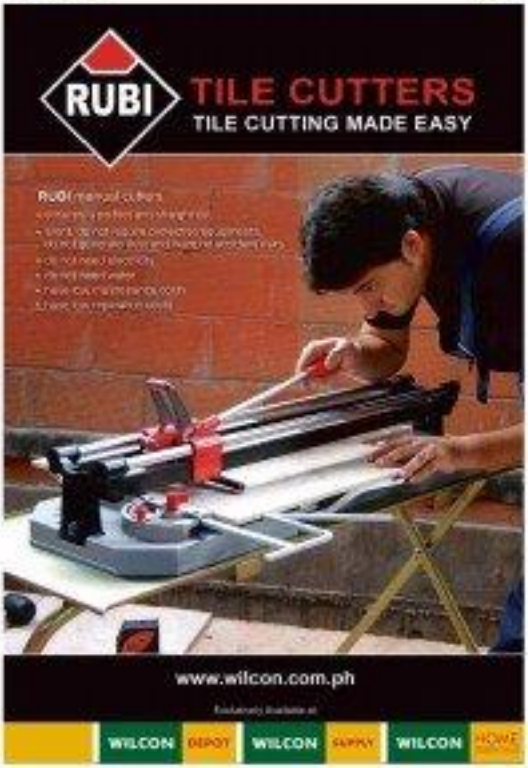

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BREAKING NEWS

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By: Michael Ross
Great Canadian Roadshow
Staff Writer

The Great Canadian Roadshow has finally made its way to the great country of the Philippines! Now is your chance to take advantage of this opportunity and have your items evaluated by one of their professionals! People from all over the world are in possession of some very rare items and may not even know it!

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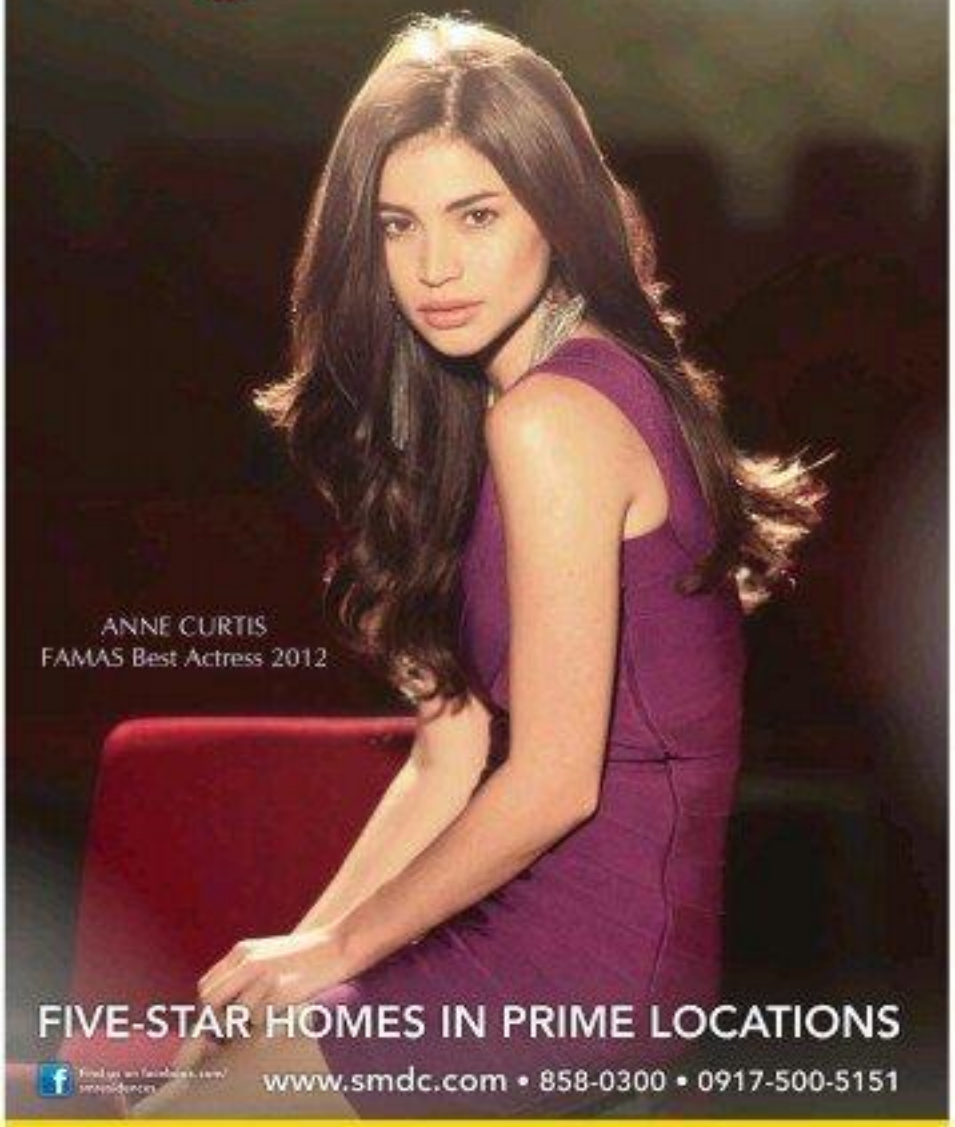

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'Church failing to reach youth'

By Erika Sauler

CALLING on the laity to increase efforts to revive the faith, Catholic priest Fr. Catalino Arevalo said a 2008 study that said the Philippine would no longer be a Catholic country in 40 years at the rate the Church was losing members.

Speaking at a symposium on lay apostolate at the University of Sto. Tomas on Friday, Arevalo said the study by a commission of the Catholic bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) that examined youth evangelization found the only six percent of young Filipinos today received "significant religious formation."

"They are not learning more, they are not really not being touched," said Arevalo, who is professor emeritus at the Ateneo de Manila University and anchor of the book "Pedro Calungsod: Young, Filipino Protomartyr."

Arevalo urged the laity to reflect on the life of Calungsod, a young lay missionary whose unbeknown to him, was martyred on Oct. 2, 1672.

Calungsod was a Visayan teenager killed during a missionary expedition to the Ladrones Islands, now renamed as Marianas and now known as Guam.

The symposium noted that Oct. 11 marks the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, a global convention that led to the renewal of the Church and its role in the modern world, and the 30th anniversary of the "Catechism of the Catholic Church."

Pope Benedict XVI has declared Oct. 11, 2012, to Nov. 24, 2013, the Year of Faith to promote renewal on the Vatican II documents and conclusions.

Retired Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, who also spoke at the symposium, said divine powers helped fast-track the canonization of Calungsod, even ahead of the popular Shalom Tersus and Blessed John Paul II, among the more than 400 to line for canonization.

"He, too, was because Calungsod died a martyr. Martyrs require miracles for beatification and canonization.

Penitaguio Bishop Jesse Mercado, chair of the CBCP Episcopal Commission on the Laity, called upon strengthening Catholics through "new ways of evangelization."

"We have our same message, but because of the rapid changes in our society, it is important for us to adopt The ways we are going in present Jesus will stay several ing in the situation we are in," Mercado told the laymen.

"To revive the faith, we should look for more effective ways to be led in Jesus. It can be through social media, text ministry, highway dancing or theater plays, but without betraying the message of Jesus Christ," he said.

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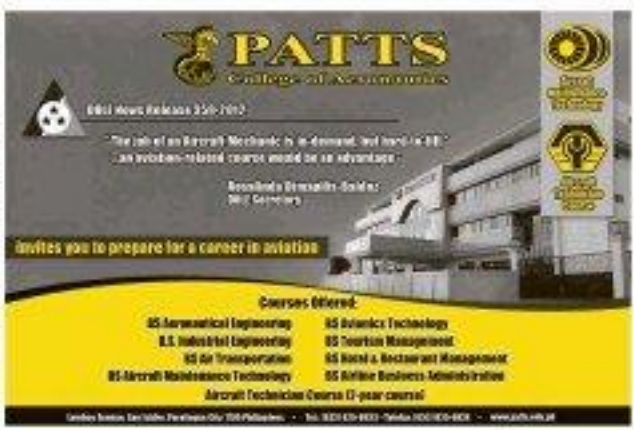

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Fanfare ushers in election season

Fanfare ushers in election season

Campaigning for local candidates for the May 13, 2013 elections officially started on Sunday, September 30, and will end on February 9, 2013, a period of 133 days.

Although the campaign does not officially start until February, today marks the start of the political season.

The Comelec is prepared to see the usual jeepney and paparazzi parade of candidates with the filing of certificates of candidacy (COCs), but it has a message for the aspirants for national and local offices.

It is opposed to the candidacies of candidates with all the fanfare. Let us make the filing of COCs as dignified as it should be," Comelec Chairman Sixto Brillantes Jr. said yesterday.

Starting today and up to Dec. 5, Comelec offices across the country will accept COCs of politicians running for the national and local offices.

The Comelec said it would not extend the last day of the filing of COCs to midnight, arguing that the opportunity for public officers should set an example to the people they wish to lead by being practical.

As stake in the elections – 80 seats in 12 seats in the Senate; 235 seats in the House of Representatives; 80 provincial and 80 vice governorships; 766 provincial board seats; 143 city mayoral and 143 city vice mayoral offices; 1,496 city council seats; 1,496 municipal mayoral and 1,496 municipal vice mayoral offices, and 21,932 town council seats.

Only candidates running in the automated and party-list races should file their COCs at the Comelec main office in Intramuros, Manila. All other candidates must file their COCs at Comelec offices in their respective provinces or cities.

PNP ready

The chief of the Philippine National Police (PNP), Director General Nicanor Bartolome, said yesterday that police officers would secure all Comelec offices and their executives to make sure that the registration of candidates would be peaceful.

The Comelec is expecting just that, despite if various marching bands, balloons and circus clowns.

Commissioner Rene Sarmiento said he picked for the filing of COCs usually brought a "fiesta atmosphere" to the Comelec office.

"We are not expecting any incidents to happen but usually the filing of COCs is endorsed from marching bands or if in a fiesta," he said in a phone interview.

So far, the Comelec has received no requests of dramas in Intramuros, known as venue of "rallyista" and "hot spots," such as Aims, Ateneo de Jesus, Mabini and the Administration Region in Manila's Mendiola/ UNDP.

He said the hitches could come from the politicians themselves. Sarmiento said, "they might submit incomplete documents." From reports by Jose Rodel Clapano, Jaime Laude and Marlon Ramos

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Citizens' rights safe in cyberspace, says De Lima

By Janvie Ailey

JUSTICE Secretary Leila de Lima yesterday vowed that the constitutional rights of citizens in cyberspace will be preserved in the implementation of the controversial Republic Act No. 10175 or the Cybercrime Prevention Act.

De Lima gave this assurance following the filing of at least five suits in the Supreme Court last week protesting the constitutionality of several provisions in the law that may infringe on the freedom of expression, of speech and of the press, the right to equal protection and due process, and the prohibition against double jeopardy and unlawful searches and seizures.

"Any power or authority granted by the law to the Department of Justice and the Secretary of Justice will be exercised judiciously and prudently, within the standards or parameters set forth in the law and with due regard to the fundamental human rights of individuals," De Lima said in a statement.

De Lima, who chaired the Commission on Human Rights prior to her appointment as secretary of justice, was among the top government officials named as respondents in the petitions against the cybercrime law, which are expected to be tackled tomorrow by the Supreme Court in its regular en banc session.

Among the controversial provisions in RA 10175 is Section 19, which gives De Lima the authority to issue an order to restrict or block access to computer data which is found as libelous or to be in violation of the law.

The cybercrime law could see Internet users sentenced to 12 years in prison for posting defamatory comments on Facebook or Twitter.

The stated aim of the law is to fight online pornography, hacking, identity theft and spamming.

However, it also includes a blanket provision that puts the country's criminal libel law anywhere in cyberspace, except that the penalties for libel on traditional media are much tougher compared to the old media. With a report from AFP

PH may get new Heritage Site

THE DEPARTMENT of Foreign Affairs (DFA) has confirmed the visit this month of a representative from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) to evaluate the possible inclusion of Iwahig Penal Colony's Mt. Hamiguitan Range Wildlife Sanctuary in the International body's prestigious World heritage sites list.

DFA spokesperson Raul Hernandez said the inspector on expat from the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) will do the evaluation. The Iwahig had listed IUCN as an advisory body to the Unesco World Heritage Center.

Mr. Hernandez said the Unesco representative will be visiting only Mt. Hamiguitan and some of the 28 other natural and man-made wonders in the country that have been nominated for the World Heritage Sites list. He said no other destinations had been scheduled this year.

According to the Philippines' nomination papers for Mt. Hamiguitan (http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5407/), the wildlife sanctuary is "the only protected forest zoned for its unique boreal field and 100-year-old 'moss' or jaggery forest of Jurassic feeling

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Assistant Editor Tony Gregorio

Across the NATION

New Pampanga flyover gives better access to Bataan, Zambales, Subic

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the city government on Friday opened to traffic the P373.1-million Manila Flyover to this Pampanga capital, providing better access to Pampanga, Bataan, Olongapo City, Zambales and the Subic Bay Freeport, and Public Works Undersecretary Rafael Dalisay.

Dalisay apologized for the delay citing floods in August. "This is supposed to start Sinulog competition in the Divisoria Abad Santos Avenue-Lacson intersection. We hope this would boost trade and tourism in Pampanga and adjoining areas," he said.

The 385-meter flyover, supplemented by two access ramps measuring 125 linear meters, was supplied by Marlene JAS through a French government export credit loan to the DPWH.

The Pampanga Chamber of Commerce and Industry appealed to the DPWH to finish the paving of roads beside the flyover. "The area is usually flooded during the construction for the flyover) because it was either dusty, full of potholes or flooded," said Consuelo Garcia, spokesperson of the business group. *Pamela Dayao, Inquirer General Luzon*

Pangasinan: 'Game of (retired) generals'

By Yolanda Lonzo
Inquirer Northern Luzon

DAGUPAN CITY—Pangasinan, which accounts for 60 percent of voters in the Ilocos region, has also the most number of retired generals either running for reelection or gunning for new positions in next year's elections.

A "game of the (retired) generals" looms in this vote-rich province with the Liberal Party's (LP) recruitment of two former Philippine National Police director generals in its fold.

LP provincial vice chair Oscar Lambino said former PNP Chief Jesuito Lambino would be such as party member last week, while the son of former PNP Chief Jesus Versoza will run for mayor of Dasol in western Pangasinan.

Lambino would likely be the LP chair in the fourth district and its mayoral candidate in his hometown Mangaldan. Versoza's son, Jesse, and his father were supposed to run for mayor but the family decided to hold him in reserve.

Lambino said there was still a possibility that the older Versoza would run for congressman of the first district. "He is a potential candidate," he said.

At LP members, the two retired police generals would be supporting the candidacy of Alaminos City Mayor Hernani Braganza, who has announced his plan to run for the province's top post, amid his incumbent governor, former Gov Victor Agbayani.

Their support for Braganza is seen as a combination of the left and right wings in Pangasinan, from a former activist during the Marcos regime when he was a college student.

Braganza is set to challenge three-term Gov. Amado Espino Jr., a police superintendent (colonel) himself before he joined politics as congressman in 2004. Espino used to be a member of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's Kabalikat ng Malayang Pilipino before he joined the Nationalist People's Coalition (NPC) in April.

Braganza also has the support of Tayug Mayor Marcelito Sinsuat, another retired police general and a classmate of Espino at the Philippine Military Academy.

Bugallon Mayor Sir Ordoña, a former police colonel, and his brother Pancras, a former police colonel, have also thrown their support behind Braganza's candidacy.

Lambino said two retired police generals—Rolando Magno and Roger Castelli—also applied as LP members and would run for mayor of Bugallon (Magno) and Calasiao (Castelli).

Rosales Mayor Ricardo Sevilla, a retired police colonel, had joined the LP but his wife would run for mayor under Team Espino.

But Espino does not lack support from former police colleagues either.

Reelectionist Ground Center Rep. Leopoldo Bataoil, another retired police general, also expressed his support for Espino's bid for a third term.

Former Sta. Barbara Mayor Reynaldo Velasco, another retired police general, is running for the same post he lost in 2010, while Lunar Mayor Silvestre Abadie, another retired police general, is running for reelection. The two are NPC members and will support Espino.

GONE TOO SOON
Unlike most politicians, the deceased Puerto Princesa City's Dr. Jose Arcenio Hagonoy received behind-the-limelight, crying-to-church send-off by people without charging them fees.

Duterte's party endorses son to run for vice mayor

DAVAO CITY—The Duterte-led political party here has endorsed Mr. elders' son to run for vice mayor in the 2013 elections.

Vice Mayor Rodrigo Duterte, whose uncompromising stand against criminality has been established, told his son Paolo to be humble, during the convention of Hugpong sa Tinong-ilang.

"Except for the criminals, where you have to be tough, there is what people have to say. Desisyon ng Hugpong ang kapalaran. People come to you because they think you can help alleviate their troubles," he said.

Duterte looked back at critics, who accused him of building a political dynasty, by saying "Dahilay somebody who is not yet strong enough to win might only weaken the new party."

Duterte said his tough stance against criminals had been credited for increased investors' confidence in Davao City. Inviting, he modeled to field someone strong enough to win the elections.

Duterte left the slots of mayor and few district representatives to be decided between himself and daughter, incumbent Mayor Sara Duterte.

Paolo, known as "Pulong" here, the president of the Association of Hugpong Capitans, said he would try in live up to his father's name.

The mayor earlier said she might not run for reelection in 2013 because she is pregnant.

Carmelaflor Lacierda, Inquirer Mindanao

P-Noy marching order: Obey LP-NPC merger in Tarlac

By Jr Hartisty-Clemente
Inquirer Central Luzon

TARLAC CITY—Shape up or ship out.

The order may not be as harsh but the message is clear: Liberal Party (LP) members of the Liberal Party (LP) and the Nationalist People's Coalition (NPC) in Tarlac, President Aquino's home province.

With two of the most influential political leaders in the country as heads of their own political parties, the President and his uncle, Reelectionist Eduardo Cojuangco Jr., respectively, wouldn't see ordinary politicians under their wings for the line.

As of Friday night, an Inquirer source said provincial officials received marching orders from their "highest political leaders" in duty and respect the LP-NPC partnership in Tarlac.

The order, the source said, was to ensure that no LP candidate would face an NPC candidate and vice versa. In areas where strong contenders for a post come from these parties, like in Capas town, one needs to give way, the source said.

The final slate for the province was finalized on Friday in Manila, and the best members say that the order would be followed once the announcement made by former Capas Mayor Reynaldo Catacutan, LP's third district chair, that he would no longer run for mayor against incumbent Mayor Antonio Rodriguez Jr., an NPC member.

In Concepcion town, the three factions of LP-Bondoc's is field seventeen slates to compliance with the order. The mayoral contenders agree to field Joy Castro, who is of the 2013 mayoral elections, as mayoral candidate and councilor and LP municipal chair Joey Balloyo running as his vice mayor.

Free zones

In Tarlac City, the LP-NPC team will be led by former Mayor Genaro Mendoza with Councilor Ana Aguas as vice mayor against reelectionist Lakas candidate, Mayor Celestio Manalang and Vice Mayor Miguel Dabuco.

Bondoc also seals the LP in the San Clemente bid failed to get the nod of the party for next year's elections. Sources also said only two of the 18 towns of Tarlac were declared free zones—Sto. Ignacia and Victoria, where both the NPC and the LP are fielding their own candidates.

In the congressional race, except for the third district of Tarlac, the incumbents will still be supported by the administration coalition.

For reelection are Rep. Enrique Cojuangco (NPC) in the first district and Rep. Susan Yap in the second district. Yap was under Lakas but had since affiliated with the NPC to join her brother, Gov. Victor Yap.

Representative Yap will face former public works and highways regional director Jose Leo Nipaz, who is likely to run under the Nacionalista Party (NP).

In Tarlac's third district, where may fight is shaping up among reelectionist Rep. Jeci Cagun, Senator Rep. Herminie Aquino and Concepcion Mayor Noel Villanueva.

The LP-NPC is fielding Aquino, the provincial LP chair and uncle of the President. Cagun, also a relative of the Aquinos, will seek his third and final term as an independent candidate after running under the NPC in the 2010 elections.

Villanueva will seek the congressional seat under the NP in the 2013 presidential election, he supported Sen. Manuel Villar. Despite that, he has promised many, Mr. Aquinos and Senator Debbie Secretary Gilberto Teodoro Jr., joining the race.

Cojuangco-Suntay vs Yap

To most Tarlac politicians, the clashing order is very important amid endorsements from various sectors that sought to field Dr. Ice Cojuangco-Suntay as gubernatorial candidate against Victor Yap, an NPC member who is seeking his third and final term.

Suntay is Mr. Aquino's second cousin. Suntay's mother, Isabel, is a sister of Danding Cojuangco.

Another source close to the family said Suntay was offering herself as an alternative so Tarlaqueños would have no choice choice.

Sources said Suntay was likely to run for governor even without a political party, because possible gubernatorial candidate is Vice Gov. Irene Dimalla of Lakas. But politicians are going around the province seeking a Suntay-Dimalla ticket.

Still, another Cojuangco is joining the local polls. Governor Yap's running mate under the NPC-LP banner is Enrique "Boy" Cojuangco Jr., son of Representative Cojuangco.

Same faces but new foes in midterm elections

From page A1

a running for reelection under his newly formed party, Kasilag, with her only son Dennis, former mayor of Lubao, is running mate. Dennis is seeking to fill in the seat of Wa'Cha Joaquin Gonzales, who is moving for representation of the third district.

Sen. Manuel "Lito" Lapid is known to be campaigning for his youngest son, Binyamel, who will run for vice governor.

Former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo is seeking reelection in the second district of Pampanga.

In Bulacan, Gov. Willy Alvarado and Vice Gov. Daniel Fernando could be running unopposed after Rep. Josefina Montano (third district) disappointed his plan to challenge Alvarado.

In Nueva Ecija, Regong Lalong of Nueva Ecija declined to field Rep. Josefina Manuel-Joson (first district) against reelectionist Gov. Tomas Umali, while her husband, Quezon Mayor Mamerto Cristino Joson, will seek the congressional seat she is vacating.

Rep. Courtney Umali, the governor's wife, is seeking reelection in the third district.

Former Sen. Isidro Mayor Ibnalon is known will run for representative of the fourth district against Magnolia Antonino, daughter of outgoing Rep. Rodolfo Antonino, said Sen. Leonardo Mayor Perlas Roquito.

In Zambales, reports said former Gov. Hermie Maquiraya was challenging the reelection bid of Gov. Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. Ebdane's son, Jun Omar, is seeking reelection as representative of the second district.

Rep. Hilda Bilbao Magsaysay of the first district has announced her plan to run for senator. Reports said her son, Jiko, may face outgoing Olongapo City Mayor James Gordon III in the congressional race.

Representative Magsaysay and Gordon's brother, Senator Sen. Richard Gordon, are running for senator under the United Nationalist Alliance (UNA).

In Bataan, outgoing Rep. Albert Garcia (second district), son of outgoing Gov. Enrique Garcia Jr., is running for governor against Hon Gov. Efren Pascual.

Former Rep. Leonardo Estrella is facing actor Gerald Bonder in the second district.

Bicol

Reps. Sorsogon first, Rene Matoza announced that she would run for a second term. Representatives Imelda Marcos (second district) and Rodolfo Bertiz (first district) are also expected to run for reelection.

All eyes are on the Lanog marriage race, however, with members of the Fariñas clan likely battling for the post that Governor Mayor Michael Fariñas will vacate next year. The mayor's wife Cherylin, president of the Association of Barangay Captains, has made known her intention to running for mayor.

In Bicol, for the Sorsogon will try to maintain its dominance in the governor mills re-electionist Gov. Luis "Chiz" Escudero facing a former ally, Sagip Sa Marso' Bagay Sorsogon Jr., in the gubernatorial race.

Sorsogon will run with reelectionist Gov. Gov. Deogracias Victor Savellano, who will face former Sorsogon ally and former Board Member Edwin Hamor in the second district. Governor Deputy Spokesperson Lito Escudero is returning to the House to replace his son, Rep. Jr.

In La Union, old political names are seen to dominate again the elections, with Gov. Manuel Ortega running for his third term and his brother, Victor, for his third and final term as representative of the first district.

Cagayan Valley

The second feud among the governor's leaders has created the race-dominated Alcantara Vilmaya to split, with factions led by Rep. Carlos Padilla and Gov. Luisa Cuaresma, who are former allies.

Aida Vilmaya also broke up and has been divided into two factions, one led by Governor Alfredo Thompson Lamson and former Santa Fe Mayor Vicente Gordan.

Cuaresma is eyeing the lone congressional seat and is likely to challenge Padilla.

Vice Gov. Jose Gambito has announced his plans to run for governor and is expected to face Dean Dandan, president of Pentagon Management Corp.

In Isabela, voters are awaiting the return of bout between reelectionist Gov. Benhino Dy III and former Gov. Maria Grace Cielo Padaca.

In Cagayan, former Rep. Manuel Mamba said he was planning to challenge the reelection bid of Gov. Alvaro Antonio.

In Quirino, Gov. Junie Cua and his son, Rep. Dakila Carlo Cua, along with Hon Gov. Rhy Guiniran-Calderon, are likely to seek second terms next year under the LP.

Cordillera

In Baguio City, the tandem of Rep. Bernardo Vergara and Mayor Mauricio Domogan express a deadlock from former Councilor Jose Molintas, who has plans to run for representative next year, and Mayor Go, who is being groomed for the mayoral post by a loose alliance of opposition leaders.

In Benguet, Gov. Nestor Fongwan is facing former Rep. Edgardo Dungaya in the gubernatorial race, while Rep. Ronald Cosalan will run for reelection against Hon. Gov. Crescencia Baculao.

In Mt. Province, reelectionist Rep. Maximo Dalog will face re-elected public works assistant secretary Leonardo Lacwasan. Gov. Leonard Mayaen will be challenged by Vice Gov. Bonifacio Lacwasan.

In Ifugao, Rep. Teodoro Baguilat Jr. will face former Rep. Solomon Chungalao for the lone congressional seat.

In Abra, Gov. Joaquin Bernos is running for reelection. The congressional race will see a close match between reelectionist Rep. Maria Jocelyn Bernos, Vice Gov. Rolando Bonoan and former Governor Vicente Valera.

In Kalinga, the LP has brought traditional political rivals—the Tegnas, Garin and Dalmeron claim—under one fold.

It will field reelectionist Gov. Jocelyn Pinlac in the affluent province. Dalmeron took his oath as LP member on Sunday along with his son and namesake, Rep. Jocelyn Dalmeron Jr. (third district).

His running mate is Rural Banker, son of former Governor and Cong. Jocelyn Pinlac and Tupas Sr., who will run for congressional in the fourth district. Mayor Lont will try to run will run for reelection under the LP—Rep. Neil Tupas Jr. (fifth district), Mayor Niel Tupas III of Buenavista, Board Member Nelly Tupas and City Councilor Melen Tupas.

Dalmeron's reelection bid will be challenged by Rep. Feliciano Bacsal (fourth district), who is the gubernatorial candidates of UNA. Bacsal's brother, Herman Jr. is UNA candidate to the fourth district, against Neil Ilo. His father, Herman Sr., will run for reelection as mayor of Buenavista. Wawa, while his mother, Bessie, is the first nominee of the labor-Bongga party-list group.

The Cordis are expected to maintain their dominance in the first district. Vice Gov. Oscar "Bahnad" Lacsa is will run for congressman to replace his wife, third-termer Rep. Jasmin Lacsa, under the LP. He will face Mayor-to-term Mayor Juliete Flores (UNA).

Oscar's sister, Christine, is running for reelection as mayor of Gamboa town while another sister, Rep. Shareen Lacsa, is the first nominee of Bandila, Dewey party-list group.

Augusto Sajsoc will run as UNA candidate for representative. Rest of the second district to replace his wife Judy he will be challenged by the LP's Peris Mayor Arsenio Governa.

In Baguio City the LP Nacionalista Party coalition will field reelectionist Rep. Jerry Bolilo, Mauricio Domogan's son Benjamin "Benjo" Domogan Jr. They will challenged by UNA candidates former Rep. Irmi Gonzalez Jr., businessman Samuel Sotto, who will run for mayor, and Councilor Jeffrey Cameros, for vice mayor.

In Abra, UNA also seeks to win against reelectionist of the LP and Ilocos Akbay Rep. Ramon Lagapit Jr., son of former Rep. Ramon Lagapit, is set to run for governor against third-termer Rep. Florencio Bellosillo.

In Antique, a coalition called "Ang pagbabago, tuloy," which is allied with PDP Laban and UNA, is seeking to remove from office Gov. Exequiel Javier and his son Rep. Paolo Everardo Javier.

Lawyer Corinchio Adduru is expected to run for governor. He ran for congressman in 2010 for Iloilo City Mayor Mike Bautista, who is seeking reelection, and Rep. Teresa Oreneta (south district). Reports from Cristina Amadeo, Leonelo Bolilio Jr., Melvin Gascon, Filimeter Pinpin Jr. and Vincent Cabreza, Inquirer Northern Luzon; and Tonette Orejas, Gerardo Reyes-Estrega, Armand Galang, Greg Bituin Jr. and Robert Gamiao, Inquirer Central Luzon; and Nestor Burgos Jr., Jhunnex Napallacan and Alex Vidal, Inquirer Visayas

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Juana Change also goes to Comelec

From page A2

Kadikitan Party List (KPL), a group of "rightwing" who felt maligned and marginalized by an antipoor movement.

Among Juana Change is the killing of COCs on members of the fictitious Change family list apart, "Ito Ban Change pamalan, ban sister, Yoko Change (mayor) ti her husband, Ben Juan Change M (representative), her son, Juan Change 2 (councilor), and two grandchildren, Juanito Love Change (OK share), accompanying the family is Change patriarch, Ben Juan Change.

Going to the Comelec on the first day of the filing of COCs for the May 2013 local and national elections is just the latest in the series of "creative responses" to the serious problem of trash-grabbing politicians, Pierre said.

Hit cities

Pulen and cultural activist Carlos Celdran recently led the antilegal ban of Quezon City, which eventually led to Mayor Herbert Bautista's removal of the ban over the City ban ringing within Hill.

The ban plans to take the ban to other cities of Metro Manila and eventually to the rest of the country.

"Each are those politicians who take credit for anything that they do, which in their duty to fulfill in the first place," said Pulen, a regular television talk show host and writer who has worked as actor, producer and director.

Pulen, also a sought-after stage actor, told the reporter in an interview that the spark were a message of the political landscape because they were reinforcing the false notion that they should take credit for bringing various projects to their towns or community.

According to Pulen, the antilegal movement that she and Celdran are involved with, hopes to make Filipinos aware that politicians should not get away with making it appear as if they have rolled the construction of roads and bridges, and streets and the distributions of relief goods, for example, whereas fact they were funded by the people's money.

Faces on billboards

Pulen said the roads were also plastering their pictures on billboards and posters announcing anything from "happy fiesta" to "happy birthday" because elections years just around the corner.

"What is all this but really campaigning," Pulen said.

Celdran told the reporter that given the circumstances of the situation, it would take some creativity to get the people's attention and considering the Juana Change and Darwaza joke issues would do just that.

Celdran shocked the Archdiocese of Manila and the Catholic faithful when he held up a placard and a life-sized "Darwaza" in the middle of a Mass at Manila Cathedral on Sept. 30, 2012, to protest the Church's stand against the reproductive health bill. Pedro Calosa is a character in Jose Rizal's novel "Noli Me Tangere" who was known to be cruel and abusive. For that stunt, Celdran was jailed for a day.

Catalysts

Celdran said, however, that he and Pulen were mere catalysts and that it was the people at public that got the antilegal campaign going.

Ordinary citizens are sending in pictures and messages about republicans in their area putting their faces on cartoons of the cross out of going to Gaga of Heaven and more Celdran for distribution to schoolchildren, according to Celdran.

"Filipinos are now getting angry with the guts of these politicians to take credit for everything," he said, adding that the antipoor movement being pushed by several groups has caught on because it is easy to relate to and easy to understand.

"Filipinos have become smarter and more are coming to realize that system is an insult," Celdran said.

He also credited Mr. Aquino with providing the democratic space for the antilegal campaign to work because of his own policy against the "culture of impunity" which enabled political politicians' sense of entitlement.

Pulen said an anti-Gov Philippines was the goal of the movement. "And this is just the tip of the iceberg. By talking about system, we can talk about other problems underneath the surface, such as patronage politics," she said.

Art as weapon

In the meantime, Celdran and Pulen would continue to use art as a weapon against the establishment.

Art has demonstrated its power to transform and the growing success of the antilegal campaign stands as a testament to the power of art—even satire—a bizarre notion with, to say.

Pulen put a damper on the giddiness surrounding the Aquino administration when she, in her popular Juana Change persona, attacked in a short film aired via You tube the President's penchant for a "secondhand" Porsche just a few months after he became President—a pattern of entitlement and good governance.

The Porsche issue film was not the latest in the series of political satire pieces that she, as Juana Change, has been distributing for free through YouTube since 2008 as part of her political advocacy.

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
OPINION

Why them—again?

EDITORIAL

THE TWO principal political coalitions labored mightily over their senatorial slates and produced... a mess. Or, rather, a pair of very familiar ones. Can we blame anyone for responding to the sight with indifference or even contempt?

After all the brave talk about pursuing the agenda of reform or offering a genuine alternative, both the administration coalition led by President Aquino's Liberal Party and the United Nationalist Alliance led by Vice President Jejomar Binay are presenting lineups forged in the basest tradition of them all: political convenience.

Perhaps the inclusion of former senator Juanby Madrigal in the LP slate and that of President Aquino's mom, Margarita "Dingdong" Cojuangco, in the UNA lineup are protecting the most canny, but with a few exceptions, both sets of candidates are cut from the same old mold used to all previous nationwide elections. The diligent Filipino voter may well ask: Is there no one else?

Politicians who have outlived their once-formidable political reputations, like former senator Ernesto Maceda. Wives of politicians who have ran into the brick wall of term limits, like former congresswoman Cynthia Villar. Siblings of incumbent senators, like congressman JV Ejercito and reelectionist senator Alan Peter Cayetano. Children of other incumbent senators, like congressmen Juan Edgardo Angara and Jackie Prince Enrile. Heirs of a political family, like reelectionist senator Aquilino Pimentel III or previous senatorial candidate Jose de Venecia III or President Aquino's cousin, Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV. Even former leaders of toilet coup attempts, like reelectionist senators Gregorio Honasan and Antonio Trillanes IV. These and other candidates for the Senate may all be running out of a sincere desire to continue serving the public—but they are not the only ones who are driven by that desire. So it isn't coincidence to some extent, however deflated, or even performance in public office, however measured, that served as the main criterion of selection. It was, it seems have been, electability.

Consider the special case of what we can call the Fernando Poe Jr. line: the three candidates who will be fielded in contests by both the LP coalition and UNA. Grace Poe Llamanzares, chair of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board, is of course the daughter of the late movie actor and presidential candidate. Sen. Loren Legarda won her running mate in 2004, and Sen. Francis Escudero served as his campaign spokesman. All three, and especially the last two, enjoy the privilege of being common candidates because of their wide popularity.

The rival Senate slates remind us of the first attempt in the post-Marcos era to form an alliance based on the politics of expediency. In 1995, the first midterm election conducted under the 1987 Constitution, the administration's Lakas-NUCD party brokered an alliance with the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino—it won, to President Fidel Ramos' infamous joke, a marriage of political convenience. That merged slate did win eight of 12 seats at stake—but it also gave rise to the first "dagdag-bawas" (add-subtract) election fraud cases, involving its own members.

Or ghost resistance to haunt Philippine politics. One of only three LP members in the current LP slate was part of that so-called marriage: former senator Ramon Magsaysay Jr. But other names in the two slates are a throwback to that time. Pimentel and Enrile, whose fathers ran (nominally) together. Today, Enrile's father, Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, is one of the three nonterminals behind UNA. Other non-virgins from the 1995 race are back in the Senate—Franklin Drilon and Sergio Osmeña III—while the most successful, the one who topped the Senate contest, is now facing charges after nine consecutive years as president: Gloria Arroyo.

Last April, reviewing the list of prospective Senate candidates being floated by UNA, we wrote in this same space: "The only thing that outsiders can grandly extend influence is ruined political expediency. So honest principle or policy belief appears to bind these politicians to one another except the need to further game an already corrupted system: ..."

The truly sad thing is that, today, as the Commission on Elections begins receiving certificates of candidacy, those lines can also apply, by and large, to the administration coalition. That Madrigal was floated as an UNA candidate in April, and now finds a home in the LP just about says it all.

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Straight from the horse's mouth

As I See It

Amad H. Cruz

I SENT 485 autographed copies of Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile's memoir home last only three days ago. I immediately ordered over a thousand more to get to the parties about important events in the Philippines that involved him. They were the declaration of martial law, the assassination of Ninoy Aquino, and the People Power revolt. The public had only a cursory knowledge of these events. Even then, there were only speculative and sometimes preconceived versions of these events. Now, finally, here are the words of a key player in all these events. Those are now words straight from the horse's mouth, so to speak. Whether or not you would believe his narration, the book provides interesting reading and enables curiosity regarding some aspects of these events.

• The declaration of martial law. It was generally believed that the outbreak of Enrile's car to Wack-Wack subdivision was faked to provide an excuse for the declaration of martial law. Not true, says Enrile in his memoirs.

"What would have fabulous outlandish?" he asked. "When it happened, the military operation to impose martial law was already going on. I had already delivered Proclamation 1081 and all the General Orders and letters of instruction to the military leaders. I had already ordered them to proceed with the military operation that carried out the orders of President Marcos to place the country under martial law. It was then that I called who doubted the proclamation, general orders and letters of instruction and disbelieved Benito Mabanglang, President Marcos later went from back to him for implementation.)

"In fact, when the ambush happened, I was already on my way to the hospital. What had I anticipated or not, martial law in the country was already an irreversible fact. So what was the need for me to fake my own ambush?...

"I honestly did not know why Marcos suddenly decided to do my ambush in justifying the declaration of martial law when he already had his public statement on Sept. 21. There was absolutely no need for it."

Who activated him? Who ordered it?

My roommate, Enrile wrote, and he had seven recordings to him:

But who among them?

Upon this day he does not know.

• The assassination of Ninoy Aquino. When Ninoy was assassinated at the Manila International Airport (now Ninoy Aquino International Airport) tarmac, Enrile said he was preparing to take a nap. It was Gen. Fabian Ver who first reported the assassination to him by telephone. "Incidentally," according to Enrile, Here is a reproduction of their phone conversation:

FVR: "What happened?"

Ver: "Boss was shot, Sir."

FVR: "What?"

Ver: "Boss was shot, Sir."

FVR: "Where was Ninoy shot?"

Ver: "He was shot at the airport tarmac, Sir."

FVR: "Why was Ninoy at the airport tarmac?"

Ver: "He was being taken to Fort Bonifacio, and he was brought down through the airport tarmac for security reasons, Sir."

FVR: "Who took Ninoy down to the airport tarmac?"

Ver: "The soldiers, Sir who sent him and ordered to be security escort."

FVR: "Who shot him?"

Ver: "I was disposed as an airport personnel, Sir."

FVR: "What do you mean by 'disposed as airport personnel?'"

Ver: "The man who shot Ninoy was wearing the uniform of (airport) personnel, Sir."

FVR: "Who killed the soldiers, Sir."

Ver: "He was killed by the soldiers, Sir."

FVR: "Where is Ninoy?"

Ver: "Ninoy was taken to the General Hospital, Sir."

FVR: "Give a list"

We: "Here dead, Sir."

• Who ordered Ninoy killed? President Marcos ordered the Agrava Commission to investigate the assassination. The fact-finding Board was headed by Justice Corazon Agrava, its members were Ernesto Herrera (Iron Labor), Dante Santos (Free Workers), Amado Dizon (for the moderate), and Luciano Salazar from the legal profession.

It was generally reported that the Agrava Commission found that the assassination was a communist-inspired plot. False, says Enrile.

That was the minority report written by Agrava.

The majority report of the four other members of the board "concluded that the killing of Ninoy was the result of a deliberate government-military conspiracy," Enrile wrote. "It passed the blame directly on Gen. Fabian Ver and several others. It recommended the indictment of General Ver and a number of high-ranking military officers and enlisted men."

• The People Power revolt. Enrile wrote that it was the failure of the Armed Forces Movement (AFM), led by Col. Gringo Honasan of the Army, Col. Saul Rapsusan of the Air Force, and Mrs. Nur Misuari of the Philippine Constabulary, that was at the forefront of the move to "withdraw their support from Marcos." Others saw it as an attempted coup. Four RAM members had already been involved. The coup plot was discovered by Col. Abadilla, a classmate of Gringo, to Col. Doria Ver who told his father, General Ver, who told Marcos. Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, vice chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, chief of the Constabulary, and director general of the Integrated National Police, was also informed of the plot.

Enrile and his men decided to make their stand against the Marcos forces at Camp Aguinaldo. It was at first point that Enrile called General Ramos at Camp Crame. "I called you to tell you I am ready to go," Enrile said.

"Libbo was quiet for a while," Enrile added. "When he was about to put the phone down, Ramos said: 'No, I will join you. Let me just finish with my duties.'"

He did and the rest is history.

En-riling

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

I SAID if politics Juan Ponce Enrile has got to be one of the luckiest persons on earth. In at least two life-changing, or history-altering, occasions, he was there at the right place at the right time.

The first was Edsa. Ferdinand Marcos' successors let the plot set over him and his rebel group fleeing in low of their boots to Camp Aguinaldo. Ferdinand's foe base, the people massed at the camps to protect them. At least to remain there. Even a chief architect of martial law is a chief destroyer of martial law. Overnight, he turned from oppressor to liberator.

The second was Senate. Corona's impeachment. What was the odds that Chi Chi's third juror after Joker Arroyo and Miriam Defensor Santiago would be at the very time Enrile was the Senate President that early-ranking him in presiding officer? A role in which he was, as eminently suited to as presiding officer of martial law. A role indeed that he performed majestically, exciting nerves on two historic public occasions.

With these things, he has managed to make the country forget his memory role at a time when a great many of the livid and blighted disappeared from the face of the earth. But he has managed to make us forget, in turn, his remote martial law and his role in it—but so is true removed from our enjoyment of it. He makes us to remember him no longer as the Reverend framing of martial law. Knowing and she he is acting here, which the Senate let off Remember, as we said up the commander. Marcos used Enrile's fake ambush to round up his critics for in the Oplan Sagittarius of it.

Will he be fooled?

What makes his possible reappearance in the Senate as a spirit one is not only the 40th anniversary of martial law. Only a couple of weeks ago, the Edsa People Power Commission held a two-day conference on how to build a memory museum, with guests from Argentina, Chile and Peru coming over to help us find ways to build memory museums. Starting next ago, P-Noy was to Pod Diaspo[illegible] telling those once wanting to exact revenge on the people who oppressed his family and the country, according to him:

Let's move forward.

Let's let this go.

Let's let bygones be bygones.

Let's not dig up the dead.

Let's not dig into dark chapters in our history.

Let's not look back.

Let's look forward.

Let's move on.

Let's forgive and forget.

Let's bury the past.

Let's not open old wounds.

Let's not rock the boat.

Let's not rock the boat.

Let's not rock the boat

What's frightening about the cybercrime law?

SOUNDING BOARD

Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, SJ

MY EXPLANATION reading these past few days has been "Winter of the World," Ken Follett's Book 2 of his "The Century Trilogy." The first few chapters are about the gradual rise of fascism and Nazism under an unsuspecting world lulled by the idea that the government knows what is best for the people. Meanwhile, within each nation, the debate going on about how to reach the have and the have-nots of married law in schools. I find this to be an opportune moment to talk about the new cybercrime law or Republic Act 10175 to see what checks of Nazism, fascism and married law might exist in it.

The new law is getting to be the talk of the town these days in legal circles and has signaled bushers of government websites into action. In, certainly the controversy on the subject will reach the Supreme Court, and the decision should tell us more about the mind of new Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno. Meanwhile, let me just pen down a number of preliminary observations.

The title of the law is "AN ACT DEFINING CYBERCRIME, PROVIDING FOR THE PREVENTION, INVESTIGATION, SUPPRESSION AND THE IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

The intention of the law, partly good and partly chilling, is set down in its Declaration of Policy. The good intention is to acknowledge the importance of info-communication technology (ict) play for the nation's overall social and economic progress. The chilling part is to recognize the need of the executive arm "to effectively prevent and combat [cyber] offenses by facilitating their detection, investigation and prosecution at both the domestic and international levels, and by providing arrangements for fast and reliable international cooperation."

As you easily be seen, the law deals not only with the most delicate rights of freedom of expression, freedom of communication, and the privacy of communication but also with the equally sacred right of the people "to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects" against government intrusion. Those rights suffered during the period of martial rule. Their suppression or impairment is usually the target of governments that have dark intentions. When victimized, the hello answer given to critics by those with dark intentions is that those rights are not absolute. That defense is already being repeated by Palace mouthpieces. It is therefore a good time to look into the disturbing aspects of the law. We might begin by taking at least a preliminary look at some of the provisions which are now under attack.

Section 6 of the law says: "All crimes defined and penalized by the Revised Penal Code, as amended, and special laws, if committed by, through and with the use of information and communications technologies, shall be covered by the relevant provisions of this Act: *Provided*, That the penalty to be imposed shall be one (1) degree higher than that provided for by the Revised Penal Code, as amended, and special laws, as the case may be."

Libelthat been decriminalized in other civilized jurisdictions. Our legislators, instead, will libelous back to the dark ages by imposing a higher penalty for libel. In effect, the advance in communication technology is being treated not as a boon but as a bane.

Section 7 says: "A prosecution under this Act shall be without prejudice to any liability for violation of any provision of the Revised Penal Code, as amended, or special laws." This is a clear declaration, if not to double jeopardy, at least to its spirit. For my mental exercise, I read at random three books, including the Bible, after which I read my favorite newspaper, the Philippine Daily Inquirer. The Bible is not updated on events happening around the globe.

In our age, we need to keep the mind stimulated in order to prevent memory loss, dementia and, God forbid, Alzheimer's disease. My other simple passions are weeding and painting with watercolor or acrylic during my leisure time.

In addition to exercise, social relationships are essential to good health and an antidote to various age-related illnesses, according to research studies. Medical authorities also say that such relationships significantly contribute to enhancement of longevity, healthier and longer lives.

I have been sick and hospitalized a number of times, but not seriously, thank God. Time, there are days when we cannot avoid the little aches and pains, the stress and tension, as we go about the daily grind of living. This is normal. I consistently decrease these irritations as part of the aging process. Worrying does not solve anything.

Lastly, let me share with readers a personal learning experience. I have come to realize that one can become very active and busy in physical kinesthetic unless we are able to heal the emotional, psychological and spiritual illnesses that weaken our immune system. The breakdown of our healing defense mechanism is caused by the trauma of bereavement, hatred, envy, selfishness, pride, greed, unforgiveness, fear, worry, anxiety and denial. Let's get rid of those toxins within us for a healthy and longer life. Now na!

Antonio A. Morgan, 66, retired from the practice of Admission, Culture and Sports as a general admission supervisor in the school division of the province of Albay after 40 years of public service.

Formula for a longer life

HIGH BLOOD

Antonio A. Morgan

I AM going on 85 now, which is the best gift God has blessed me with. Whenever and wherever I shower upon my friends and relatives and former schoolmates and other coworkers, I always happily attained to see that at my old age, I am still up and about, healthy and strong. They invariably ask what my formula is, if any, for an extended life. (Indeed, if life is short, then why should we complicate and shorten it further?) They also ask what I do to remember, having long retired from public service.

My answer to the first question is simple living. If you can call that a formula. Simple living for me includes a modest house with a few pieces of locally made wooden furniture, which I live with my wife. This is done after having spent years maximizing few pairs of my ancient office uniforms. Some new pairs and shirts were smart gifts from our children. Our simple fare consists mostly of fruits, vegetables and fish. We have eggs and a bit of meat at least twice during the week. We eat unfashionable, we have it and we're hungry so by our only daughter.

As for the second question, well, I do a lot of work in the house, barangay and school. Oh, yes, work greatly contributes to healthful living. For instance, on a strict "no-smoke" basis the moment I have planted, say, a few kilos of okra, root crops and vegetables. In harvest time I share some of the produce with our neighbors.

At home, my wife and I share the chores; we do not have a house helper. The kitchen is the exclusive domain of the lady of the house, being the favored "executive officer." I attend to the maintenance of marketing, washing the dishes, pots and pans, cleaning the house and restroom, and ironing my sands. I do minor repair jobs like fixing a leaking faucet, and even the tool. I repaint the house to avoid the need a new coat. I tend to potted plants to enhance the ambiance of the place, no matter how small and simple.

In the barangay some two years or so ago, I were around to raise funds for the construction of a shelter for the senior group on our street. The completed project was a little more than P6,000, but not a single centavo was contributed by the beneficiaries themselves.

In our vicinity, I organized and managed a 6-ball billiards tournament for senior citizens. Billiards is not exactly my cup of tea, but I can still play the game for three hours without suffering fatigue. My breath can tolerate sips of cohesive-only. While playing, I do not wear eyeglasses. I use those only when I am reading.

At the Castella North Central School where I am a member of the Parents-Teachers Association's board of directors, I supervised the construction of three new school buildings. Since we have classrooms. My personal services were all pro bono, for the sake of the schoolchildren. The greatest joy that keeps me up and going is anything good that I am able to do for others.

Exercise is an important factor for keeping the body healthy and strong. I maintain three hours of daily exercise: spiritual, physical and mental. My spiritual exercise consists of our morning and evening prayers. In spite of our sinfulness and transgressions, we strongly believe that God will always take good care of us. I spend an hour, more or less, for my physical fitness. It is not the regimen gym type of workouts but the light and moderate kind appropriate for old people like myself. For my mental exercise, I read at random three books, including the Bible, after which I read my favorite newspaper, the Philippine Daily Inquirer. The Bible is not updated on events happening around the globe.

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The 'Jesuit Paper'

COMMENTARY

Roberto C. N. Rivera, SJ

John J. Carroll Institute on Church and Social Issues

TWOJOHN Manuel Pangilinan recently declared his investment of 6% with Meralco de Manila Utility because of what he described as a disciplined corporate governance, among other issues. In a letter announcing this split, he expressed his "inherent objectivities to a 'Jesuit Paper'" that encapsulates what is supposed to be Meralco's position on mining.

What exactly is this Jesuit Paper?

First, it should be pointed out that the papers in question. "The Golden Ideas in Mining: Talking Points" (downloadable at www.jesuit.org.), was NOT issued by Ateneo de Manila. Rather, it was prepared by the Society of Jesus Social Apostolate (SJSA), a network of social ministries under the auspices of the Philippine Jesuits. The SJSA is composed of Jesuit and lay apostolates, organizations, research institutes, student social formation offices, and other social and political advocacy groups.

The members of the SJSA are involved in diverse works, united by the universal Jesuit mission of "promoting a faith that does justice." This is why the SJSA has been engaged in the past in public involvement (poverty alleviation, good governance, environmental stewardship, cultural appreciation, and Mindanao peace and development).

The papers also taken pains to emphasize that it is primarily an act of "talking points" for our Jesuit members, as well as other like-minded organizations and individuals. As a set of talking points, the paper is meant to be part of a longer process of discernment and reflection on the mining issue. Crucial for this process is the consideration of inputs from all stakeholders—business, government, academe, church, civil society and, most importantly, the communities affected by mining operations. In fact, the idea to draft these talking points first emerged during an SJSA colloquium in mining held early in June, when representatives of all these stakeholders were invited to present, including Mines Geosciences Bureau director Leo Jasareno, Philippine Mining Corp. for the business sector.

Also crucial in this process is the identification of "non-negotiables" for which mining should not be pursued. As a network of Catholic institutions, the SJSA naturally draws from the rich heritage of Catholic Social Teaching for these non-negotiables. The Jesuit Paper is among a three-step intended along a handful of long-standing principles of Catholic Social Teaching. The talking points also identify three theological principles to bear on the mining issue, then all stakeholders will be held accountable. It is in this sense that such principles are not non-negotiable.

For example, the Jesuit Paper cites the well-established principle of the "common good." Blessed John Paul II explains the common good in this manner: "It includes all those conditions in the level of well-being necessary for the full development" (Gaudium Et Spes, 26). One clear consequence of this is what he describes as the "universal destination of goods," for all wealth is under a "social mortgage" (Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, 42) and thus should be employed for the benefit of all.

In applying this principle, the paper asserts that "all stakeholders in the process should receive benefits from the industry commensurate to need." It identifies how communities can benefit through "increased livelihood opportunities and community welfare services." Government is also entitled "to collect the maximum revenues from mining operations and other forms of extraction for the good of the nation." The rights of corporations to "derive reasonable profit to continue the responsible conduct of their operations" is equally recognized. The paper warns, however, that spreading these benefits around should never be "at the expense of increasing the environmental and social risks of mining."

In the same vein, the paper cites the Catholic principle of "subsidiarity." Pope Pius XI describes this principle as follows: "...[I]t is an injustice and at the same time a grave evil and disturbance of right order to assign to a greater and higher association what lesser and subordinate organizations can do" (Quadragesimo Anno, 79). Subsidiarity promotes the healthy exercise of freedom, and the paper recognizes that this freedom is both a right and a responsibility for all involved in mining. "Subsidiarity challenges all stakeholders to balance regulation by responsible mining with that which fosters entrepreneurship and initiative to ensure that mining operations truly preserve the common good."

Given that the SJSA talking points identify principles equally applicable and non-negotiable for all stakeholders, it is indeed unfortunate that Mr. Pangilinan sees the paper as an unbiasing position.

To read on a personal note: As a Jesuit faculty member of Ateneo de Manila, I have witnessed first-hand how Mr. Pangilinan's support has greatly enhanced educational opportunities in the university. His break with Meralco is truly sad. But I am sure that he knows the importance of Blessed John XXIII: "Differences of opinion in the application of principles can sometimes arise even among sincere Catholics. When this happens, they should be careful not to lose their respect and esteem for each other" (Mater et Magistra, 238). If indeed there has been a necessary parting of ways, it is stated by an overriding sense of goodwill and gratitude.

Thank you, Mr. Ins-Ins-wal.

Fr. Roberto C. N. Rivera, SJ, is the coordinator of the Society of Jesus Social Apostolate.

Message from Nakar

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

HI HIGHland "Mac in thee, I'm Bombaroma with Honey," Maj. Gen. Courtney Whitney relates how after the fall of Bataan and Corregidor in April and May 1942, a virtual wall of silence appeared to surround the Philippines. There was absolutely no information from the country or through it had been cut off from the rest of the world.

Then suddenly on July 19, 1942, a radio signal addressed to Macarthur was picked up on the air by an anti-occupied island of Java (part of the Netherlands East Indies, then the colony of Indonesia) and passed on. The message read: "Despite the efforts of 54 American forces—we have not surrendered...are actively raiding northern Luzon and routes of Panguinan including Urquijo. Radio censorship by Japs very rigid resulting in complete ignorance of Filipinos of the true and correct status of the war.... Our people, nevertheless, are concerned and confident of your return to command. Your victorious return is the nightly subject of prayer in every Filipino home. [Signed] Lieut. Colonel Nakar.

"Probably no message ever gave Macarthur more of an uplift. It dramatically informed him that the Filipinos' spiritual resistance to the enemy still continued after their military bastion had crumbled and that his soldiers who had avoided capture were still loyal to him. There followed a radio exchange between MacArthur and Nakar in which valuable information concerning enemy activities was received. The darkness and silence was finally penetrated."

* * *

For many Filipinos, the early period of the Pacific War centered mainly on Bataan and Corregidor, as well as on the resisting Claro M. Recto of guerrilla leaders. Those of Japanese have. Very few of us are aware that Filipino scouts, mainly in Southern Luzon, that were unable to join the main group of movement to the Bataan Peninsula joined forces to do battle with Japanese units that had landed in Agusan, Cagayan. This force was designated by USAFFE headquarters as the 66th Infantry Regiment.

On Jan. 15, 1942, the regiment assailed the town of Bayugan in Cagayan, and its adjacent airfield killing several 300 Japanese soldiers and destroying three enemy planes on the ground. So designated as the 14th Infantry commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Nakar, the unit conducted raids on enemy garrisons and ambushed Japanese patrols while the battles of Bataan and Corregidor raged on.

When Nakar and his men left Agusan, Nakar ordered to surrender keeping the 14th Infantry intact and laying down the foundations of an effective intelligence network covering the provinces of Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya, and Pangasinan [Filipinos in History Undated Encyclopedia, 238-239].

* * *

Who was Nakar?

Guillermo Pelaestante Nakar was born on June 18, 1906 in Lubuagan, Quezon. He graduated from the Philippine Constabulary Academy (now the Philippine Military Academy) in 1932. One of his classmates was Ingnio E. Campo, who later served as Philippine Constabulary chief during the presidency of Carlos P. Garcia.

Physically short, muscular individual with a military bearing. He sported a "high cut" and a trim moustache, in photographs, he was good looking and wore his uniform with pride.

Nakar was a captain serving with the USAFFE based in Northern Luzon at the outbreak of World War II.

Under Nakar's leadership, the 14th Infantry survived as a guerrilla force that made life difficult for the enemy and pinned down many of its troops that were badly needed elsewhere. A coordinated offensive was launched by Japanese forces to apprehend him and other guerrilla leaders.

On Sept. 29, 1942, Nakar was captured and eventually imprisoned in Fort Santiago. Murderer's headquarters considered his capture as "the first serious blow to the scouts' organization" and the USAFFE remained since Nakar was regarded as the most prominent [Chief] officer in the northwest Luzon area."

Even as a prisoner, Nakar remained defiant. He bluntly refused his freedom in exchange for signing an insider pamphlet and swearing allegiance to the Japanese. In Isabela, the Japanese offered Nakar to surrender as an act of their propaganda campaign. Instead of harnessing or broadcasting to his captors, however, Nakar denounced the abuses and cruelty that the Japanese inflicted on the people.

According to an article written by TD Agcaoili, titled "No Fight, the Brave," which appeared in the Sunday Times Magazine on March 3, 1946, Nakar's detention at Fort Santiago presented him with the opportunity to inspire the fellow prisoners. While in captivity, he did his best to uplift the spirits of the inmates using a "thumbs up" sign during radio raids on calisthenics to convey a message of hope and optimism. The Japanese jailguards failed to understand the meaning behind the gesture that signaled "everything was okay keep your chin up, and keep on fighting."

On Oct. 1945, a year after his capture, Nakar was executed. Some sources indicate that he was tortured and beheaded. Tomorrow marks the 68th anniversary of his martyrdom. We do not need to create heroes. We have many in our midst that we know little of. Nakar's life and death is an example of selfless courage and enduring loyalty....If only we took the time to learn more about our past.

* * *

On Jan. 22, 1946, the Distinguished Conduct Star, the 3rd highest military award of the Philippine Commonwealth, was pinned by Brig. Gen. Macario Peralta Jr. on his widow, Angelina Coronel Nakar.

Executive Order 246, dated July 25, 1949 and issued by President Elpidio Quirino, created the new municipality of General Nakar, carved out of portions of the towns of Baler and Infanta, Quezon.

On March 30, 1950, AFP General Orders No. 264 renamed Camp Wilhelm DeLarena, Quezon) as Camp Guillermo Nakar, now the home of the Southern Luzon Command (Solcom) of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Nakar is survived by his two sons, Guillermo "Willy" Jr. and Nelson, and a daughter, Glenda "Glen." Willy married to Guadalupe Llanasca, is the presiding elder of Iglesi Cristiana, a global family of Catholic communities. He was formerly an assistant solicitor general in the justice department. I recall that for a while he served with Rear Admiral Romulo Espaldon in the Bureau of Customs, prosecuting smuggling cases. Willy's is the branch head of the Servants of the Lord in Antipolo, Quezon, while his, married to Imelda Dumlao, is a fellow parishioner at Mount Carmel in New Manila, Quezon City.

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On crooked judgments

LETTERS

All it excess forums, Secretaries and Exchange Commission chair Teresita Sorbosa, an aspirant to a Supreme Court seat, expressed optimism that under the stewardship of Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno, decisions of the courts will henceforth "be based on the merits..." Decision. 9/22/12) She also seriously believes in the new chief justice's moral ascendancy springing from the latter's deep faith in God, to inspire such hope. Indeed, to paraphrase US Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, the merits of the case provide a clear guide to predicting how courts will decide cases. Then it is deliberations assume should be able to take us the hold?

As far as necessary serves, lawyers have often found themselves in a quandary about the outcome of their cases. Believe it or not, they know fairly fast and when a decision sticks in their craw. Often enough, just when they thought there was no way they could turn their cases in light of the applicable law and prevailing jurisprudence, judges somehow managed to find ways of reversing down to "Court whisperin" have decreed upon the issues of the land like a plague! These are the decisions that dissent have judges should "weight the evidence." The saddest part is, many judges have no qualms accommodating them and giving the genuine merits of cases in favor than don't entitle the ones it found "blatantly cynical" (in terms, because it is silliest injustice while to grant them as grounds of corruption), their decisions are ably reversed and nothing much else is missed out by way of interesting charts for their egregious errors. They unabowed, they go on with their perverted ways and the circle goes on and on.

Take the case of a Metropolitan Trial Court (MTC) judge who issued a hold-departure order (HDO) against a person charged with violating the "bouncing checks" law—unbeknownst to upon the investigation of a client's private prosecutor. Thus, when the accused went to the airport for a business trip, immigration authorities showed the HDO in his face and stopped him cold in his tracks. Despite signatures by his lawyer who immediately came to his rescue, the airport officials insisted on the most personal—only the court concerned could recall the HDO and set it at rest. (The Supreme Court's injunction is crystal clear: No MTC judge can issue an HDO) That incident may well be the use of the injudicial in this piece, but it is that it was what everyone has come to realize about the extent to which lung justices take liberties with their sense of "justice."

The sheer unpredictability of so many more decisions has no doubt helped erode the people's faith in our judicial system. By dint of common sense, the people know what is white or black or black, and one can never be the other.

Here's earnestly hoping that the new chief justice will succeed in instilling best of God in the hearts of many's rearward magistrates. And to those who think her for being so "prayerful," only this need be asked: Does our conscience come from fear of divine wrath?

—(STEPHEN L. MONSANTE)
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Binay's office: SB explained rejection of COA findings

In OPI column published Sept. 20, 2012, Solis Mottoed questioned the basis of the Southpontocan division slamming in 2011 the graft case against former Makati Mayor Jejomar S. Binay, wife of Vice President Jejomar C. Binay).

It seems that Mottoed is a true believer in the infallibility of Commission on Audit (COA) Commissioner Heidi Mendoza. For Mottoed, the antigraft court based its decision on consideration other than facts and briefs. Here is to quote the decision of the Sandiganbayan's Second Division for the enlightenment of Mottoed:

The Sandiganbayan expressed its "disbelief that the prosecution came to Court with such shoddy evidence, leaving us no alternative but to reject the accused from the unnecessary burden, expense and anxiety of having to defend themselves to acquittal at last."

The case was based on the findings of a COA team headed by Mendoza alleging overpricing in the purchase of furniture for the City Hall. The court found that the allegations of overpricing were "crushed on the basis of the formed prosecution" of the audit team.

According to the Sandiganbayan, the audit procedure adopted by Mendoza violated the rules of the COA, which requires comparison of similar items to prove allegations of overprice.

Mendoza and her team admitted to the court that they relied on "a mere comparison of the height and size of the items ... without considering the materials." "They did not even consider 'the scarcity' of the items. Mendoza herself admitted that the details of the [audit] compared to those made her see the same," the court said.

Specifically, the COA team relied on a "simple document comparison only" "without referring to a confirmatory physical scrutiny of the furniture and fixtures," the court said. Furthermore, the audit team irresponsibly lashed accusations without first confirming if the purchases were indeed excessive.

Mendoza employed the same audit procedure in the case now being heard in the Sandiganbayan. The counsels for Mr. Binay cite exactly assailing the chance to cross-examine Mendoza and their are confident that they can refute, on cross, the weaknesses of the denials and conclusions she presented to the Court in its hearing last week.

—(BELLE VILLALOBOS)
head, Media Affairs Division,
Office of the Vice President
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Activists mourn passing of 'great people's lawyer'

HUMAN RIGHTS activists, NGOs and migrant organizations under the Hong Kong Campaign for the Advancement of Human Rights and Peace in the Philippines (HKCAHRP) pay tribute and our highest respects to lawyer Romeo T. Capulong—a staunch, passionate and tireless defender of the Filipino people's rights.

We remains with his family, colleagues and friends and we share their grief over the loss of a truly great people's lawyer.

His record in defending people's rights is remarkable not only because of the lifetime he devoted to the cause but more so because of the cases he handled despite the legal hurdles and even the constant threats to his life and liberty. While working on cases within the legal system, Capulong never lost his principles and his faith in the importance of an organized and militant people's role in defending human rights and in the movement's just cause.

Since HKCAHRP's founding in 2006, we met Capulong on several occasions, and we also organized several forums with him, especially in the height of extrajudicial killings during the criminal regime of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

We admired his grasp of the human rights condition in the Philippines, his sharp analyses on many pressing issues, genuine and witty humor, romantic charm, as well as his belief in the Filipino people's movements for genuine social changes.

The struggle for justice for the victims of human rights violations in the Philippines continues. Up to now, under the Aquino administration, the culture of impunity persists. Capulong will surely be missed by those he helped in his pursuit of justice.

With deepest grief, we mourn Capulong's passing. While we continuing commitment for human rights and peace in the Philippines, we celebrate his life and work.

Long live the memories of lawyer Romeo T. Capulong!

—ERIN C. VILLANUEVA,
co-convenor
Hong Kong Campaign for the Advancement of Human Rights and Peace in the Philippines,
bluebeppy@yahoo.com

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Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. Try to quote will not publish only letters without such information is supplied.

The women of Pescador

THE WOMEN of Pescador in Navotas attempt to stand straight up with their children, almost defiantly, we empire say. In their world of poverty and abandonment. It is hard not to talk romantically about such women, even though hundreds of thousands of similarly poor women live in every city, and surround our great country.

There were six of us—Fr. Jorge Atienza, SJ; wife Rice, Ate Chu Amadeus, Lee Seabrooke, Benjo Iñigo and myself. We wanted to see if our nongovernmental organization could help the people there. We found small, nice women willing industrialize this idea and looked more like scrip of pain than something to eat. The women must have been beautiful once, but now their faces are wrinkled and their teeth are missing. They are from the 166 or so families in the Pescador resettlement housing area in a squatters housing along Navotas side of R-10.

They live in units that are packed three together, worn and dirty on the outside. But inside the rooms are clean, and all the space is carefully used. Some families have only one or two square meters, just enough room for a family-size bed, where they spend 10% of sleeping, eating, loving, studying and playing in cramped unit. The families have been in this emergency housing for at least a year, since Typhoons "Ondoy" and "Gener" and a community fire destroyed their old homes. How long should emergency housing last?

It's a sad situation. The government promised some families space by a new settlement. Other families are willing to live on a site in earthquake-prone area called Tanza. Maybe the people and the government can look into this possibility. A few months ago, the Pescador women designed a village on stilts for the very same place. It can work. Haven't what people lived graciously on stilts in the country in Philippines?

The women also hope the government will give them loans with which they can start small businesses, such as selling fish.

We had the impression that the women had done just about all they could do by themselves. We talked them what lessons they had learned since they could share with us. One of the leaders said, "we must go on and on, no matter what. Life must go on." We asked, "Are you angry with God, perhaps?" Another woman said, "If God were not here taking care of us, we would not be here."

It was a Saturday, so after a long talk the people invited Father Jorge to go to some bank for Sunday mass. Mass for them is the highlight, so on Sunday we were back and had a very simple, prayerful Mass in the middle of the room. The altar was an old piece of plywood, a row of small pots sat in front, cooking was smoking at the hot coals and incense. We were being judged. The adults joined behind, perhaps till altogether, mostly women.

After the mass, we had the usual meeting. Serge and Alice talked. "Just encourage them," Father Jorge whispered to Serge. "Tell them God loves them and is very pleased with them. That's enough."

The women were very grateful. They thanked Father Jorge for having "opened their" and for taking time to visit them. Maybe they thought Father Jorge was a bishop. Anyway, he is their friend. This time women can never know and never will.

The women may not be beautiful as they perhaps once were, but the children are, especially when they are pouring water over themselves and their young bodies glisten in the sunlight. They are beautiful, too, in their quiet moments. Long before the Mass started, a little girl came and sat on one of the chairs before us was resting her little brother to be quiet. "Imahbin," she told him with a very motherly look. There was no one she around.

We had the impression the women live for their children.

These women are a good example of how God wants men and women to live in the world. It is a dream! —In the Presence of Jesus (6:6). "I'm good, Jesus tenderly and was humbly before your God." There are many women like them among the poor. There are men, too, of course, but it is the women we see that are touched.

If the reader is led up with the problems of Manila or feels some how uneasy with or threatened by urban poor people, please visit Pescador and talk with the women. I think it will help. It helped us.

Jesus Ayuyang works with the Urban Poor Associates (urbanpoorassociates@yahoo.com).

Enrile's memoir: Story of sorcerer's apprentice

From page A1

democratic regime by the Edsa People Power Revolution of 1986. These two pivotal events burdened the state immediately period of political and social change that ever existed this century after World War II.

In both aphorisms, Enrile sees himself as those **the center of power observers was in charge, either as a lone man of the running regime, a component of coup plots lurking behind the scenes, or as scapegoat of political change.**

He assumed illnesses in planning the legal **reconstruction of the disciplined use of martial law in Proclamation No. 1081, named as Marcos' martial law administrator for nearly 11 years, and leader of a military coup that sparked the 1986 civil-military ruling that toppled the dictatorship.**

On Thursday, Enrile launched at the grand ballrooms of the Manila Peninsula Hotel his autobiography, "Juan Ponce Enrile: A Memoir," the first authoritative account of what went on behind the inner sanctum of Marcos' **secretive establishment and Enrile's true story** side to the events of the darkest 20 years of Philippine democracy, in the words of Enrile, a firsthand story of an insider, not history.

This is what makes the book overseen, deeply important and gripping as a historical document.

The massive volume of 754 pages, which was trimmed in size and edited by journalist Nestor Navarro, was launched significantly just six days after the 40th anniversary of the proclamation of martial law, officially signed on Sept. 21, 1972, but announced on national television only two days later.

The book should be read less as a story of the life of Enrile but more as a chronicle of the rise and fall of the nation in the transition between authoritarian rule and open, plural government.

It presents Enrile's perspective of the events in which he had been a central player — a circumstance that makes his account more credible and that gives it life and a true dimension.

Revision of history

Make no mistake that in the book, Enrile justifies Marcos' decision to impose martial law. This book is, therefore, a serious attempt at revision of the history of the dictatorship and the Filipino people power movement that followed it.

In his speech at the launching of the book, Enrile said, revealing his agenda:

"I have been judged and condemned many times. But I fear only the ultimate judgment of God and history. My survival over the vicissitudes of my difficult life, over injustice, cruelty and betrayal, and my successes, great or small, I can only attribute to God's grace.

"I have seen how poverty, squalor stalked the land, and how injustice and discord divided our people. ... I have been privileged to have known and worked with some of the best and the brightest minds and leaders of the nation who certainly endeavored to unshackle the people from the grip of poverty and foreign domination. We tried to reverse the national backwardness and to make it more humane and prosperous so that the lot of the downtrodden would be alleviated.

"But we failed miserably not for lack of good intentions but for lack of a strong will to resist the temptations and enterprise in flavours of power, money and privileges. I have witnessed how the selfish and avarice of some have incessantly circumvent the road to meaningful change and reform.

"Since many of the events in this book are events that not only I but the whole nation witnessed and experienced, I lay no claim to a monopoly of the truth. This book is simply my own rendition for what I know to be true because I was there, and I lived through and survived these events."

Story of survival

How Enrile survived those dangerous events is what this book is all about... his resiliency, his longevity in power while zooming through on top of the heap of tortured victims of the martial law regime, to which he is now spreading the blame for its excesses.

The rest of this book promises to reveal the details of this narrative.

Let Enrile's tale of this oral history speak for him for us to determine whether he exercised these delegated powers to soften the rigors and abuses of the martial law dictatorship in the manner that the unerring governorship of President Ferdinand E. Marcos during the Japanese occupation claimed that he shielded the population from the cruelty and atrocities of the occupation forces. For what a martial law but an exercise of arbitrary rule unrestrained by constitutional safeguards suspended by decrees of a select ruling elite.

In his introduction, the book's author, Navarro, gives a preview of some of the inner power struggle between Enrile, then-defense secretary, and a faction identified with the then First Lady Imelda Marcos and Gen. Fabian Ver, then chief of staff of the Armed Forces, and Enrile's disagreement with Ver over the latter's version of the assassination of Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr.

These episodes suggested the undercutting of the powers of Enrile. Navarro also revealed the shortages in the people power movement between the civilian segment and the military leaders Enrile and Armed Forces Vice Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Fidel Ramos), after their breakaway from Marcos.

Navarro wrote: "Enrile's very detailed narrative-by-minute account of the four days of Edsa presents another view of history that sharply differs with the yellow school of history which understandably owes fealty to a most unfavorable light."

On the issue of whether he is trying to exercise history with the erasure of the past. The memoir seeks to depict him not as a lackey of either former Gen. Eduardo Gutierrez Gutierrez, or his enemy in power, Marcos, but as the sorcerer's apprentice.

PDI launches Inquirer Tab today

From page A1

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Gins give Batang Pier rude welcome

By Mueroy B. Castillo

FRUSTRATING in a free-flowing game in front of the PBA's biggest season-opening crowd, **Barangay Ginebra San Miguel** got off to a dream Philippine Cup start last night after pounding its thoroughly 113-90 destruction of Global Port at Smart Araneta Coliseum.

Six players scored in twin digits and LA Tenorio showed his true worth in his first game as the King in Dindo Pumaren's first official win as coach.

GAMES SATURDAY
(Smart Araneta Coliseum)
6:30 p.m.—Air21 vs Barangay Ginebra
8:45 p.m.—Petron Blaze vs Alaska

Tenorio finished off the seamless Batang Pier with a flurry.

"We got over-opening day jitters, the distractions," Ginebra coach Siot Tanquingcen said. "It is good to start this way."

The Kings, sixth players from last season, opened up touch of as many as 21 points in the first half and 24 in the third period before encountering some resistance midway in the fourth as the Batang Pier came within 65-94 after a triple by Gary David.

But Ginebra quickly regained its composure behind Tenorio, who dished off for six nights high 10 feeds in a back-breaking 14-0 run that put the game away, 108-88, going into the 5-and-42 seconds.

"That's why we worked very hard to get him (to the practice) weeks with Alaska)," Tanquingcen, who, as coach of Ian Miguel Beer several years back, dealt away Tenorio to the then for Willie Comer, said.

"That's his value to this team. He brings a lot of intangibles to the game, the pulse in the ambiance," Tanquingcen added of Tenorio, who finished with just two points but also had six rebounds.

PLAYERS from rookie mum Global Port join the rest of the field during the opening ceremony of the 38th season of the Philippine Basketball Association game day at Smart Araneta Coliseum. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Mark Caguioa led the Kings with 18 points, with seven of those points coming inside that momentary of Tenorio action.

Willie Miller, the former two-time MVP led Barangay Pier with 26 points, carrying the fight for the rookie squad with national player and last year's scoring champion David struggling all night offensively.

In fact, that three-pointer was David's only field goal for the game.

The last time Ginebra won this big in a season opening game was during the first year of Bobcats (now Bolts or Shine) seven years ago, when the Kings destroyed the Hasta Bainers, 102-68.

Rico Maierhofer, injured for most of last season, contributed 11 points and 11 rebounds for Ginebra, whose two rookies, Keith Jensen and Chris Ellis, played no good at after blood.

Jensen had 13 points and Ellis 12 as the duo got a great glimpse of what it feels like playing for the crowd darlings with 18,861 packing the Big Dome.

GINEBRA 108—Caguioa 18, Miller 26, Ellis 12, Ilagan 0, Tenorio 14, Jensen 13, Ellis 12, Aurin 0, Reyes 0, Maierhofer 11, Mallari 0, Helterbrand 2, Devance 5, Wilson 5.

GLOBAL PORT 90—Miller 26, Caguioa 18, Mendoza 11, David 6, Pascual 0, Ingram 7, Salvador 7, Jo-Hansen 2, Dela Cruz 0, Manuel 2, Quintana 2, Ural-Sanz 2, Pe 2, Hubalde 0, Tiongco 0.

Scores: 30-20, 61-46, 88-65, 108-90

'Give money back to coconut farmers'

From page A1

benefit of the industry and the farmers.

"Give the money back to the farmers," Arroyo said in an interview on the weekend on the government grappled with the question of what to do with the recovered assets after a quarter century of political brigandry.

"The government should spell out now what it should do," the senator said. "They have been eminently silent."

He recalled that little of the P53.9 billion amassed by the Bases Conversion and Development Authority in the sale of military facilities went to the modernization of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Arroyo shrugged off reported government intentions to use the money for the rehabilitation of the coconut industry and its 3.5 million farmers. The rebuilding of the industry is a function of the government, he said, and the farmers should not be asked to shoulder this expense.

Some 26 million Filipinos, comprising the nation's poorest of the poor, depend on the industry. Many of the farmers who paid the tax on copra imposed during the martial law years from 1972 to 1982 are either dead or dying and would no longer enjoy the fruits of their labors, said industry activists.

Farmers need to be heard

Jinggoy Estrada, secretary general of the peasant coalition Katarungan-Quezon, said genuine farmers should be involved in any government initiative on recasting and using the funds to assist the devastation of the past.

Carmona pointed out that the levy was imposed by the dictator Ferdinand Marcos supposedly "for the benefit of the farmers," but few of the peasants gained from it.

"It is important here to establish a consensus farmers must have to ensure that the coco levy fund will not again be squandered. It would be good if the progress would directly benefit the small farmers. The government should ensure that the recovered coco levy fund will indeed not be used again for the benefit of big capitalists," he said.

Gus Boganbayan, executive director of the advocacy group Centro Saka, also supported the issuance of an executive order or law establishing a trust fund by the farmers.

Boganbayan warned against moves by the Nationalist People's Coalition headed by businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco to block a bill by Rep. Rilo Taduda of Quezon to establish a trust fund.

Jerry Ramirez, head of the Coconut Industry Reform Movement, called on President Aquino to certify for urgent legislation bills to the two houses of Congress that would establish a Coconut Farmers Trust Fund to be initially funded by any recovered coco levy funds.

He said genuine farmers should be represented in concerned agencies of the government, including the group of cooperative competing institutions United Coconut Planters Bank (UCPB) and the Coconut Industry Investment Fund (CIIF).

"To date, personalities closely related to Eduardo Cojuangco Jr. have been appointed/reappointed to the group of cronies," Ramirez said.

Getting it right

"The farmers have waited this long and have had to survive on so much less, to my book, getting it right is worth the wait, even if it means waiting a little while longer," said Hilario Davide Jr., a reformist lawyer for the coalition.

Cojuangco was a member of the triumvirate that supervised the coconut industry during the martial law years. The others were then Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and the late Ulan Lobregat, then head of the Philippine Coconut Planters Federation.

In a decision last year, the Supreme Court said that another 20-percent block of SMC shares that was sequestered in 1986 following the Edsa People Power Revolution belonged to Cojuangco, throwing out claims by coconut farmers that it was part of the ill-gotten wealth of Marcos and his cronies. A dissenting justice described the decision as the "joke of the century."

The 20-percent block of shares is worth P54.38 billion of common shares floated on P113/share).

All told, 31 percent of the shares of stock of SMC, now one of the nation's highly diversified conglomerates, were acquired in 1985 for P2 billion, allegedly using coconut levy funds deposited in UCPB headed by Cojuangco, an uncle of President Aquino.

For election purposes?

The shares newly infused is 46 percent of the SMC stock as part of the company's expansion with the subsequent entry of Japan's Kirin brewery.

Most percent of the package estimated at P15.3 billion has been converted into treasury warrants, representing holdings of then SMC boss Andres Soriano and his employees.

The 24-percent block of SMC shares that the court had ruled belonged to the farmers was sequestered using a complex arrangements with 14 holding companies. The scheme was conceived by Cojuangco's lawyers, some of whom later become senators.

In 2009, this portfolio, estimated to be worth around P70 billion, including interests and dividends, was converted from common to preferred shares pegged at P75 per share.

Of stills acquired by the government during the martial law years are worth P6.35 billion.

Still included in the bundle could be worth at least P646.16 billion.

Although the court decision on the Cojuangco shares has become final and executory, coconut reform advocates are seeking a revision of the ruling.

Ramirez, including one signed by the head of the Catholic Bishops' National Secretariat for Social Action, have been sent to the court questioning its April 2012 ruling on this 20-percent block of shares.

A week after the high ruling in favor of Cojuangco, the President renewed an interagency meeting in Malacañang to discuss strategies on what to do with the SMC shares once recovered.

A presidential task force on coco levy headed by Secretary Joel Rocamora of the National Anti-Poverty Commission was created. The group met 20 times, but some of the farmers' groups was represented, the hope has yet to be realized, although companies with links to Cojuangco subsequently were involved.

The group later came up with a so-called road map to coco levy funds for the development of the industry and a proposed legislation that confirmed earlier "to complement the government's overall anti-poverty and rural development agenda."

Apart from this, nothing has so far been heard from the government amid speculation that the money might be used in the elections next year.

Sto. Domingo Church keeps rich cultural heritage

From page A1

objects National Cultural Treasures, the highest distinction the government can confer on a cultural property.

The declaration follows Republic Act No. 8496, otherwise known as the National Properties Preservation and Protection Act, which defines "national cultural treasure" as a "unique cultural property found locally, possessing outstanding historical, cultural, artistic and/or scientific value which is highly significant and important to the country and nation."

Rare distinction

The rare distinction will help Sto. Domingo's caretakers, the Dominicans, in the preservation and restoration of the church, according to Fr. Domingo Pierre Arsenach, prior of the Convent of Santo Domingo.

"Funding for preservation and restoration will be more accessible and the government will also grant the church protection in times of calamities and war," said Fr. Enrique Ingcuy, archivist of the Philippine Dominican Province.

Asking the National Museum to declare the church and its attached facilities as cultural treasures was Siquia's idea, said he did so in August last year.

To support his application, the convent submitted documents, including a comprehensive coffee-table book titled "The Saga of La Naval: Triumph of a People's Faith," which covered the history and the relevance of Marian devotion to the Filipino faith and culture.

The book, edited by historian editor Lin Juliano, was published by the Dominican Province of the Philippines in 2007 to mark the centennial of the canonical coronation of La Naval, Stacksuk said.

In response, a team from the museum circulated a draft declaration for one to see if its merits entitled it to become one of the country's national cultural treasures.

Witnesses to history

Besides their history, the church and the La Naval image have very compelling stories to tell the National Museum's approval, among them their standing as silent witnesses to riveting, recent events in Philippine history.

Sto. Domingo Church served as the venue for the wake of opposition leader Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr., who was assassinated in 1983, while the Marian icon, carried by the then-infant priests, gave encouragement to the people during the bloodless Edsa People Power Revolution that toppled the dictator Ferdinand Marcos in February 1986.

The 50-year-old duo-foot-Queenie Avenue in Quezon City—originally located for four centuries in the old Intramuros in Manila—has also been widely used for its modern architecture and design by the late José Vilalta Enriquez.

"It is the only church that has no columns in the middle so one will have a clear vision of it [inside]," Arsenach said in an interview with the bureau on Friday.

In his piece in "The Saga of La Naval," architect and University of Santo Tomas professor Manuel Antonio Lopez del Castillo Nodas described Sto. Domingo as "total statues of mission-style architecture, with a fusion of Renaissance articulation and Gothic verticality."

Adding more value in the church are the eight murals by National Artist Carlos "Botong" Francisco, mounted on the cupola, depicting important events in the life of its patron, St. Dominic de Guzman, and the vivid stained-glass windows rendered by Filipino artist Galo Ocampo.

Secret vault

On the choir loft, a 76-year-old pipe organ made in Rosary, Ill. in Hong Kong is being removed to its grandeur by Diego Cera Organbuilders Inc., custodians of the world-famous Las Piñas bamboo organ.

Somewhere in the vast church complex is a secret vault holding centuries-old ivory icons and wooden images of saints made by Filipino craftsmen, exquisite gem-studded, age-old crowns; golden Marian robes and fine jewelry for the Virgin possessed by devotees devotees.

The secrecy about the vault makes sense. In October 1762, thieves broke into the Sto. Domingo Church in Intramuros and took some of its treasures.

Anecdotes relieved the heists as in "The Saga of La Naval" for a few short pieces of the church's treasures. The list of jewelry possessed by devotees to the Virgin Mary runs for four pages. Among the devotees were members of old, rich families in the country, including the Romuses, Quezons and Madrigals.

Marian jewelry

"While devotees of Our Lady of Mariano would offer her dresses, it is different in the case of Our Lady of La Naval ... they would offer her jewelry," Arsenach said.

So the jewelry collection is a locket, described in the La Naval book as "studded with small diamonds, and pearls and colored gems." It is believed to have been offered to the Virgin by a certain Ana Rubio, a native of Cabangan, Bulacan, in the 19th century.

Another notable gift is the National Artist medallion, which artists devotee Nick Joaquin instructed his heirs to donate to the La Naval Virgin before he died in 2004. The medallion has been affixed to the statue's foot since then.

Second to the crown, according to the books, are precious ivory beads and bands for statues of several saints, including St. Dominic, St. Vincent Ferrer, St. Catherine de Ricci, St. Agnes of Montepulciano and St. Antonius of Florence.

The Sto. Domingo Museum houses other valuable objects—such as centuries-old crucifixes made of gold and silver, rosaries and a tabernacle, all of which had been saved in the old Sto. Domingo Church in Intramuros, according to Arsenach.

Original church image

The original, Gothic church in Intramuros was built on a piece of land bought by Manila Bishop Domingo de Salazar in 1587. Upon its completion in 1588, a wooden image of La Naval from Mexico was enshrined there and it would stay there for 388 years.

The church was consecrated by Quezon City and inaugurated in 1959 after the 1851 Sto. Domingo Church in Intramuros was destroyed in the Battle of Manila in 1945.

But the final point of the unofficial distinction from the National Museum, Arsenach said, is the storied image of La Naval, which was carved from ivory by a Chinese artisan commissioned by Governor General Luis Pérez Dasmariñas in the 1590s.

"This is the first ivory image carved in the Philippines; that's why it is very historic," Arsenach said.

All pre-1981

With a controversy involving alleged ivory trades in the Philippines rocking the headlines, Arsenach quickly added that all ivory icons in the church had been in existence long before the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES), to which the Philippines is a party to, became effective in 1981.

The devotion to La Naval flourished after she was believed to have helped the ill-equipped Filipino and Spanish armada repel the Dutch invasion of Manila in 1646.

"The Virgin Mary is significant to the Filipino culture because, in the middle of all uncertainties, there is something that you're holding on to and that is faith in God, as what she showed in her life," Arsenach said.

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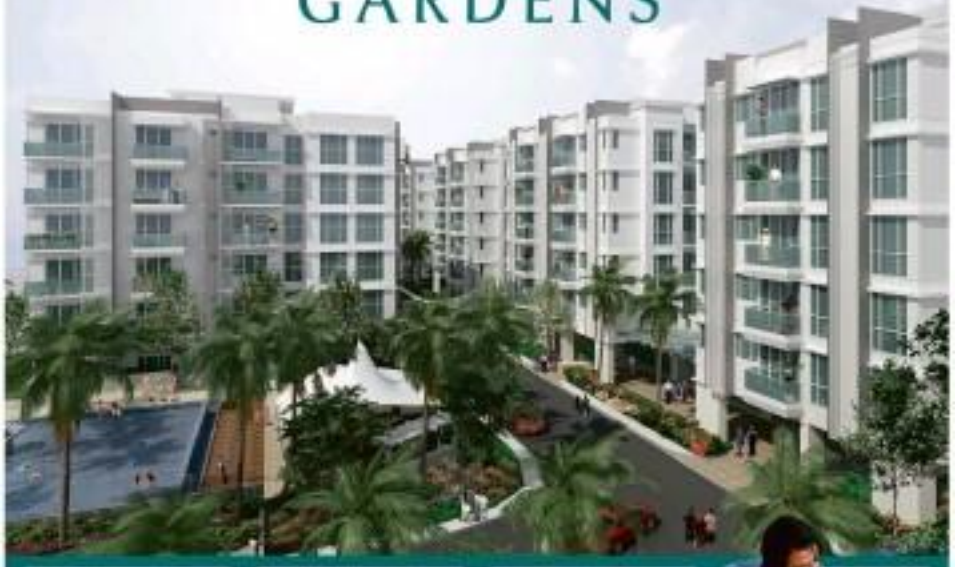

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POLITICOS OLD AND NEW GEAR UP FOR 2013

Ready, set, go!

By Erika Sauler and Jeannette I. Andrade

IT'S THE same familiar faces with a sprinkling of new names thrown in for good measure.

Expect voters in Metro Manila to get a feeling of déjà vu when politicians start filing their certificate of candidacy (COC) in the Commission of Elections (Comelec) starting today.

That's because the majority of those running in next year's local elections are composed either of incumbents who are going for another term, their relatives or former politicos who are eyeing a comeback.

Notes in Manila, for example, will have an all-family reorganizing former President Joseph Estrada who is eyeing the mayoral seat, and his running mate, incumbent Vice Mayor Isko Moreno. Both are running under the United Nationalist Alliance.

Estrada's media adviser, Angel Gonong, told the Inquirer in a text message yesterday that the two would be filing their COCs on Tuesday after a 9 a.m. motorcade from the former president's house on Mango Street in San Miguel, in the Gonzalez office area Manila City Hall.

They will be slugging it out with the Liberal Party candidates, incumbent Mayor Alfredo Lim and his vice mayoral bet, Councilor Leo Odtohan, who are expected to file their COCs today, according to Lim's chief of staff, Ric de Guzman.

Thirty-six candidates for councilors will join Lim and Nelson in a blitz in the Fraternidad Triangle at city hall at 7 a.m. to be followed by the regular flag-raising ceremony. They will then leave for the Comelec office on Amazonas Street.

In Mandaluyong City, the incumbent mayor may have to fight for his chief and her own against his current second-in-command.

Sources told the Inquirer that Vice Mayor Benny de Guzman is considering running for the city's top post against Mayor Benhur Abalos.

De Guzman ran under the Liberal Party ticket in the 2010 elections.

The younger Abalos, meanwhile, is a member of the Lakas-Kampi-Christian Muslim Democrats.

Al Tamayo, an actor and director, is being touted as De Guzman's running mate.

BETS SEE P.A2A

PLUS ONE
A girl seems mesmerized by the newest addition to the growing menagerie at the Malabon Zoo—an ostrich-ed Mary.

Police strip trader of firearms permits

By Marlon Ramos

A METAL scrap trader has been barred by the Philippine National Police (PNP) from purchasing and owning guns after he allegedly threatened to kill Cavite provincial prosecutor Emmanuel Velasco and members of his family.

Chief Supt. Raul Petrasanta, head of the PNP's Firearms and Explosives Office (FEO), yesterday said that his Sept. 27 order revoking the firearms permits issued to businessman Victor Murillo was based on a pending government policies on gun ownership.

He added that Murillo, who had been repeatedly interviewing himself as an agent of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), had 10 guns registered under his name.

"There is no limit (to) the number of guns that an individual may own, but we closely evaluate and monitor persons who keep 10 or more firearms," Petrasanta said in a statement.

Last week, the PNP-FEO head cancelled the gun licenses issued to Bohoy Blue Candoseca, the bodyguard of Velasco, and Murillo's daughter Jessica, who is also smoking a rival in relations, and Allan Bautista, a patrol at Colegio de San Agustin in Bacoor,Cavite, Village, Makati City, who allegedly pointed a gun at another student who earlier stabbed his son with a ball pen.

Acting on Petrasanta's order, the Cavite police led by Senior Supt. John Bonifacio arrested dozens on Murillo's residence in Tanza, Cavite, last Thursday night and seized a cache of firearms.

Confiscated from Murillo were a cal. .45 pistol, an AK-47 assault rifle, two M16 rifles, two shotguns, one .357 revolver and three cal. .40 handguns.

Petrasanta said he had also asked the office of PNP Chief Inspector General Nicanor Bartolome to revoke Murillo's permits to carry firearms outside the residence (PTCFOR).

Under the law, only the PNP chief's office has the authority to issue PTCFOR to licensed gun owners.

Velasco, son of former NBI director Epimaco Velasco, sought the assistance of the NBI and PNP after Murillo reportedly threatened to harm him and his family.

In his separate letters to Bartolome and NBI director Nonnatus Rojas, Velasco said the businessman had been posing as an NBI agent and was using his (Velasco's) name "in his alleged illegal activities such as grabbing and illegal disposal" of garbage in Cavite.

Petrasanta said Velasco had claimed that Murillo also sent him threatening text messages after Velasco challenged him to "liano his (Murillo) bonan said ed."

"The sudden n lated andin Murillo's regular business phone as confirmed by several witnesses," he added.

Earlier, he said thatagas, Murillo supposedly warned Velasco that he and his son Raul would suffer the same fate as those of murdered Supt. Teodito Wan, one of the principal suspects in the killing of public relations expert Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and his driver Emmanuel Corbito.

MAKESHIFT SHELTERS
A man caught in the rain makes a dash for it as several others take shelter in culverts about to be installed as a road improvement project on Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.

Thieves get busy in QC, take P17M

By Jeannette I. Andrade

THIEVES made off with more than P17 million worth of valuables, including jewelry and electronic gadgets, in separate heists they pulled off over the weekend in Quezon City.

One of the robberies was carried out by just one man while other was involved six men who tied up a restaurant owner and members of her household before ransacking their house and fleeing with a loot of more than P10 million.

Based on reports from the Quezon City Police District Criminal Investigation and Detection Unit (QCPD-CIDU), a man barged into the house of Marissa Gammaitan on Ipo Street, La Loma at 12:30 p.m. on Friday.

At that time, only the housemaid, Aleyla Bulaya, was in home, according to SPO2 Gregorio Manansag.

The robber got into the house by scaling the fence and forced open the door, catching Padua by surprise.

To get her out of the way, he locked her inside a toilet after he threatened to kill her should she escape and then proceeded to ransack the house.

Police, however, managed to get out of the toilet and run outside where she asked a neighbor for help.

But by the time help arrived, the robber had disappeared, along with Gammaitan's safety box which contained P1.5 million worth of jewelry.

Clearly defiant, IGcan, the following day, six men robbed the house of restaurant owner Marilou Knight on 3rd Street, New Manila.

Case investigator PO2 Julius Salleman said the armed men entered the house after they subdued the family driver, Daniell Aquino.

Once inside, four of them rounded up the other members of the household, including Knight, her two sons and two female employees.

Salleman told the bosses that the robbers tied up the victims using wire and gagged them using packaging tape.

They were later locked inside one of the rooms while the robbers ransacked the house for valuables.

The police said the thieves took mainly jewelry, including a pair of diamond studded earrings worth over P3 million and more than P2 million worth of Rolex watches.

On top of this, they made off with cash, cell phones and other valuables worth nearly P4 million.

The police said the robbers organized a reception.

CHILDREN AT PLAY
A damaged portion of the seawall near the Philippine International Convention Center in Pasay City is the playground of children living beside Manila Bay while a boat arriving at a nearby harbor remains at sea.

2 dead as fistfight leads to stabbing

By Jeannette I. Andrade

TWO PEOPLE who tried to intervene in a fight between a 22-year old man and his enemies ended up being stabbed to death in Quezon City.

Leonilo Alle Lopez, 41, a resident of Sitio-sido Street in Barangay Tinyatan 8, and her neighbor Edwin Estacio, also 41, were both declared dead on arrival by attending doctors at Fairview General Hospital.

Lopez died from a single stab wound while Estacio sustained seven stab wounds all over his body.

Police were trying to pacify his son, Mark Adrian, who had figured in a fight when he was stabbed. Lopez tried to come to the aid of her Estacio's defense but she was also attacked.

Mark Jollin, on the other hand, remains confined in a hospital after he likewise sustained multiple stab wounds.

SPO2 Johnny Wahiman of the Quezon City Police District Criminal Investigation and Detection Unit said the fight started at 12:20 a.m. yesterday. Mark Jollin got into a fistfight with a neighbor who was identified only as Kim on Dimasalang Street.

Estacio tried to break up the fight but before he could do so, Kim ran into his house and returned with a knife which he used to stab Mark Jollin.

Antonio followed them but he met his son who was then staggering out of Kim's house with his stab wounds. Hot on Mark Jollin' heels was the knife-wielder who offed only as Sonny.

When Danny saw Estacio, he attacked him with the knife as Mark Jollin escaped.

Lopez, on the other hand, tried to stop Danny who also stabbed her before he fled with Kim.

The wounded victims were immediately brought by neighbors to the nearest hospital but Lopez failed to save Lopez and Estacio.

2 nabbed for bullying 'bully'

TWO MEN now face multiple charges after they allegedly assaulted a 17-year-old student at Tala Pilot East High School in Barangay Pamplona, Las Piñas, last Friday.

Leandro Santos Jr., 24 and Junan Mejia, 27, both residents of Doña Manuela Subdivision in the city were arrested after Santos reportedly approached the victim who was leaving the school.

The victim and Santos punched, kicked, slapped him without provocation and pointed a gun at him, before fleeing in a motorcycle driven by Mejia.

The duo were soon pursued and caught after the victim asked for help from policemen.

The victim's mother said they wanted to arrange another victim who had accused the victim of bullying him.

Jayrence T. Cuasi

DID YOU KNOW

THE PLANETARIUM at the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) Science Garden in Diliman, Quezon City, can project around 5,000 stars, five major planets, the sun and the moon. With a seating capacity of over 80, it provides astronomical information through planetarium shows and educational tours.

Isabel Bendijo Aquino Research

Bets get ready for 2013 polls

From page A01

Abaloz, on the other hand, is eyeing a partnership with Edward Barrera, a councilor of the city's First district, and Jimmy Isidro, Mary Johnson, public information officer.

In Quezon City, the political alliance between Mayor Herbert Bautista and Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte is expected.

But they are eyeing a run for a second term in their respective posts and there seems to be no contenders at the moment.

"What I am sure about is we are running for re-election for the same party next year," Belmonte told the Bulletin.

A few months ago, there were rumors about a "Bautista-Bautista" showdown for the mayoralty in Quezon City but people close to sister Tito Sotto quickly denied that he was considering going into politics after his elder brother, Senator Vicente Sotto III.

Other possible candidates for the mayoral seat are Ismael Mathay, former city mayor from 1992 to 2001 and ex-congressman Mike Defensor who made a bid for the post in 2010.

Former Quezon City mayor and house Speaker Feliciano Belmonte, on the other hand, is running for re-election in the fourth district.

Meanwhile, Caloocan City Mayor Enrico "Recto" Echiverri is eyeing a comeback in Congress as he winds up his third and last term next year.

Vice Mayor Edgar "Egay" Erice, also Caloocan and Liga ng mga Barangays ng Pilipinas president Reynaldo "RJ" Echiverri.

The younger Echiverri, however, is expected to have a hard time with his father's nemesis, incumbent Rep. Mitchell Rodgel "Egay" Valeo, also gunning for the post.

Both the Echiverris and Erice are members of the Liberal Party and this is not the first time they will be locking horns.

Erice earlier dagged several cases of graft and corruption against erstwhile political ally, accusing him, among others, of failing to remit millions of pesos to employees' contributions to the Government Service Insurance System.

The Office of the Ombudsman eventually dismissed the complaint but not before meting out a six-month preventive suspension order against Echiverri.

The Echiverris are expected to file their respective COCs on Oct. 3 while four has yet to announce his plans.

A third comeback, Rep. Oscar Malapitan of the first district, is also expected to run for the same post.

After the death of his uncle, Mayor Alfredo Lagman, Malapitan's son, Vice Mayor and acting mayor Annabelle "Lanlan" Cruz is considered a shoo-in for the post although he has not yet decided when to file his COC, according to sources close to him.

What is heating up, however, is the race for the vice mayor's post.

At least four politicos have revealed their intention to run, including former councilor and now Manila Councilor Dennis Cabangbang and Councilors Ian Emmanuel Sotto and Nilsson de Mesa.

In Navotas, incumbent Mayor John Reynald "John Rey" Tiangco is expected to run for reelection.

Tiangco first gained his fame and notoriety as ABS-CBN while his brother, then Mayor Tobias Reynald "Toby" Tiangco, ran for Congress.

Both of them won and are now eyeing a repeat.

In Valenzuela, incumbent Mayor Rexlon Gonzalez, who will wrap up his third term next year, earlier gave up his ambition to run as a senator.

Instead, he is now setting his sights on a return to the House of Representatives as representative of the city's first district.

His colleagues Jocelyn Limcaoco Rep. Rocky Gonzalez, is hoping to succeed him as mayor.

The brothers are expected to file their COCs on Oct. 3. With Nestle Jones Jr., Melissa Luz Lopez, Ma. Elena Bautista and Jaymee T. Gomez

Accident kills rookie cop

A 30-YEAR-OLD rookie policeman died before midnight on Saturday when his car collided with a motorcycle.

PO1 Sandy Arne, who was assigned at the National Capital Region Police Office Regional Public Safety Battalion in Camp Bagong Diwa, Taguig City, was speeding on the northbound lane of E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue in Quezon City when he lost control of his motorcycle as it neared the flyover in Barangay Ugong Norte.

He was thrown off the motorcycle and flung several feet away due to the impact, said SPO4 Henry Ile of the Quezon City Police District Traffic Enforcement Unit.

An ambulance took Arne to a hospital where he was declared dead on arrival due to massive head and leg injuries.

Jeannette I. Andrade

SILENT PROTEST
Streamers on which are printed messages criticizing authorities for demolishing the homes of urban poor dwellers catch the eye of a jeepney in Barangay Pag-asa, Quezon City.

National gov't should enforce consistency of local ordinances with national laws

The Chamber of Mines of the Philippines (COMP) reiterates its call for the Philippine government to take immediate steps to enforce consistency of local ordinances with national laws, particularly in the long-running battle involving provincial legislation banning open-pit mining that contradicts with the Philippine Mining Act of 1995.

Accordingly, we recommend the full implementation of Section 12 of Executive Order 79 either through positive persuasion or, in the worst case, legal action to invalidate inconsistent or contrary ordinances.

COMP also asks the national government -- by way of support for legislation -- to allow mining firms to pay directly to the local government units their rightful share in mining revenues. We believe that mining projects will enjoy further support from local communities if the latter can immediately realize the fiscal benefits due them from mining.

The South Cotabato provincial ordinance that incorporates a ban on open pit mining is publicly acknowledged by the Philippine government as contrary to national policy. The ordinance, which has been in place since mid-2010, and a similar one in Zamboanga del Norte passed last year, have served no one but those who oppose human and economic development in the Philippines.

We appeal to President Benigno S. Aquino III to correct a Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) decision, under the authority of Sec. Ramon Paje, where he, in an unprecedented manner, denied the granting of the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) for the world-class Tampakan Copper and Gold Project in southern Mindanao. The position of the DENR contradicted the position of other top officials, among them the beloved former Department of Interior and Local Government Secretary Jesse Robredo, that the ban cannot supersede the national law, the Mining Act of 1995, which only spells out responsible mining and does not ban any mining process such as open pit mining – a method used and accepted worldwide.

The Tampakan Project is being managed by one of the world's most recognized large-scale mining house when it comes to responsible mining – Xstrata. Despite the many challenges the industry has been facing, and despite the impediments placed in its path, Xstrata and its partners have invested nearly USD $400 million in exploration, environmental studies, and community development initiatives demonstrating its strong commitment to responsible minerals development.

We applaud President Aquino's recent statements that his administration's new mining policy is meant to establish a consistent and stable business climate that encourages quality investments, as well as set rules that are balanced, fair, and beneficial to all stakeholders. We share his desire to ensure that all our people share the benefits of our God-given resources. As Contractors of the State, we will continue to work within the framework of sustainable development, cognizant of our responsibilities in environmental protection and socio-economic growth.

CHAMBER OF MINES OF THE PHILIPPINES
Advocating Responsible Mining

The WORLD

Editor Lamberto B. Gonzalo

Trial of Pope's butler caps turbulent year for Church

VATICAN CITY—Pope Benedict XVI's former butler, Paolo Gabriele, went on trial Saturday on charges of stealing the Pope's confidential papers and leaking them to the press, an unprecedented security breach that set off an embarrassingly public airing of back-room intrigue and allegations of corruption at an institution known for its secrecy.

Gabriele appeared tired but serene throughout the two-hour hearing, which was held in a sparsely furnished, wood-paneled courtroom in a Vatican City palace behind the apse of St. Peter's Basilica.

The court ruling was taken up with legal formalities, and the secular court—flanked by a panel of three judges—granted motions to strike some of the evidence gathered against Gabriele and to split off the trial of a codefendant, a Vatican computer expert charged with aiding and abetting.

A spokesperson for the Vatican, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, said the atmosphere in the courtroom was "serene." Television cameras and recording equipment were not admitted, and a pool of eight reporters allowed inside briefed other journalists after the hearing.

Gabriele, who has admitted taking the documents, faces up to four years in prison if he is convicted of aggravated theft. He is scheduled to take the stand at a hearing on Tuesday. Despite his admission of guilt, the trial could proceed because under Vatican law, there is no plea bargaining, and judges must independently verify the facts of a case.

The trial of Gabriele, 46, caps a turbulent moment for the Roman Catholic Church, rocked by a pedophilia scandal involving cases of its clergymen, a power struggle with American nuns over church doctrine, and challenges to preserve its moral authority while rapidly changing societies. Some of the leaked documents exposed an especially unflattering view over some questionable administrative practices as well as inner wrangling at the Vatican.

Among them were letters written by Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò (he/ing that he had made enemies within the Curia and beyond after ranking out corruption and financial mismanagement in the Vatican City administration. In the letters, Viganò, who was then the second-ranking official in the part of the Curia that administers Vatican City, asked to be allowed to continue cleaning up the Holy See's financial affairs. Instead, he was removed from his post and named the papal nuncio, or ambassador, to the United States.

The hunt for the source of the leaks led to Gabriele, a father of three who had worked in the Vatican for 20 years and was discovered to have stashed what prosecutors described as a "vast quantity" of confidential documents in his Vatican City apartment.

He passed some to an Italian journalist, Gianluigi Nuzzi, who published them in May in the aptly titled "His Holiness: The Secret Papers of Pope Benedict XVI."

The butler was arrested in May and later released to house arrest. An investigation into the charges led to a formal indictment in August.

Court records show that Gabriele told the judge examining the case that he was "evil and corruptous everywhere in the Church," and believed that he had to expose it because other Pope "was not correctly informed" about what was going on. The shock of public exposure, he told investigators, "would be a healthy thing to bring the Church back on the right track."

Psychiatric evaluations determined that Gabriele knew what he was doing but also that he was angry, frustrated and easily manipulated.

After his arrest, Gabriele wrote a letter to the Pope asking for forgiveness, according to Carlo Pucci, one of his lawyers at the time. It is not known if the Pope responded to the letter.

The Pope appointed a commission of three cardinals to investigate separately, and they reported their findings—which remain confidential—to the Pope this summer.

This is the highest profile court case in years to take place in a tribunal that has preserved the procedures of a 19th-century Italian penal code and handles only a few dozen, mostly insignificant, cases a year. If convicted and sentenced to prison, Gabriele will serve the time in an Italian prison, because the Vatican does not have one. But it is widely believed that the Pope will grant a pardon.

In the courtroom, Gabriele was dressed in a neat gray suit and impeccably groomed. His family was not present. *New York Times News Service*

WORLDBRIEFS

Fighting in Syria torches historic medieval market

BEIRUT—A fire sparked by battles between Syrian President Bashar Assad's troops and rebel fighters tore through Aleppo's centuries-old covered market on Saturday, burning wooden stores and scorching stone stalls and vaulted passageways. The souk is one of a half-dozen renowned cultural sites in the country that have become collateral damage in the civil war. The damage to one of the best-preserved old souks in the Middle East was the worst yet to a Unesco-World Heritage site in Syria. Across the country, bombs have broken into a historic castle, stolen artifacts from museums and damaged ruins in the ancient city of Palmyra, antiquities officials and Syrian experts say. *AP*

Virus related to SARS not easily spread

A MERS strain of a potentially deadly virus related to SARS, which has killed one man in Saudi Arabia and left a Qatari man critically ill in London, does not appear to spread easily from person to person, the World Health Organization says. Still, officials are urging vigilance, saying that health workers around the globe should be on the lookout for anyone with unusual respiratory syndrome and requiring hospitalization who had been in the Middle East, where the virus first surfaced, or to contact with a suspected or confirmed case within the last 10 days. The virus, as yet unnamed, belongs to the coronavirus family, like SARS, in 2002, a SARS outbreak that began in China went on to infect 8,000, killing 1 in 10 victims. *New York Times News Service*

Extra sanctions to punish Iran, restrain Israel

UNITED NATIONS—The European Union and United States are set to toughen nuclear sanctions aiming to punish Iran while seeking to hold back Israel from a military strike. Top officials said as the showdown enters a critical phase. Whether moves to pressure Iran have been made more urgent by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's stern call for a "clear red line" against the Islamic state's nuclear drive, diplomats said. Netanyahu's conversation with US President Barack Obama on Friday measured some ways that Israel and the United States are more in tune over Iran. But they highlighted lingering uncertainty about if and when Israel could launch unilateral action. The European Union will be first to step up sanctions as part of the international campaign of pressure alongside increasingly frustrating efforts to negotiate a halt to Iran's uranium enrichment. *AFP*

Ukraine's ex-premier releases video from jail

MOSCOW—In a late-night video message, Yulia V. Tymoshenko, the jailed former prime minister of Ukraine, lashed out against President Viktor F. Yanukovich, who is widely viewed as responsible for her imprisonment, and urged voters to defeat Yanukovich's party in parliamentary elections next month. In the video, Tymoshenko also bore Ukraine to be a "criminal country" under Yanukovich and accused him of "lawful" rule. The video was recorded in a hospital where Tymoshenko has received treatment for chronic back pain, and was posted on her own party's website. Tymoshenko has been in prison for nearly a year, since she was sentenced to a seven-year term on charges of abuse of office related to a natural gas deal with Russia in 2009. *New York Times News Service*

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WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Down-the-wire NCAA Final Four race looms /A30

■ US bets pad Ryder Cup lead over Europeans /A31

Archers, Bulldogs eye stronger season next year

[illegible] 0 [illegible] — Ateneo 0, UST 1
(Game 1, best of three) [illegible]

By Jasmine W. Payo

AS ATENEO and University of Santo Tomas gear up for the UAAP championship duel, the two teams they dispatched in the semifinals have quickly turned their attention to next season.

National University and La Salle—the two squads that defied the odds in the thrilling race to the Final Four—expect to earn lots solid contenders as both were with virtually intact lineups in next year's men's basketball tourney.

"Our preparation for Season 76 starts tomorrow," said coach Gee Abanilla after the Green Archers easily pulled off an upset over four-time champion and three-time defending titlist in the semifinals, 66-63, last Saturday.

"I just feel we'll have a better season next year. We have an intact lineup, for, of course, we still have to see the other talents in the market. We have some players already in our ranks."

The Bulldogs, who reached the Final Four for the first time in 11 years, also gave a tough fight before the Tigers held up on a 63-57 win in their own semifinal duel.

"I told the team to always remember that before you succeed, you have to fail first," said NU coach Eric Altamirano. "We want to use this loss as motivation to move forward and prepare for next year. I believe that next year we'll be able to handle it better."

Both the Bulldogs and the Archers cite "inexperience" and "lack of experience" as reasons for their mid-game meltdowns in the semifinals even if both squads [illegible] season in Season 64, which was determined by the quotient system to rank the four teams and four playoff matches to determine the seeding, before the actual Final Four games.

Sao Sebastian, last year's losing finalist, has two tough games remaining against this season's surprise package, Perpetual Help, on Thursday and San Beda on Oct. 8.

With an 11-5 record, the Stags are assured of at least a playoff for a Final Four berth just like the Knights, who have the Arellano Chiefs for their last game on Oct. 6.

The Bombers, with a 10-7 card as the Altas, have the lighter assignment in the Emilio Aguinaldo College-Lyceum of the Philippines University tandem on Thursday.

With a 13-2 record, the Lions, who are on a nine-game winning run, have already locked up the top seeding in the Final Four.

Meanwhile, Mapua hopes to match its win total last season when it battles Lyceum at 4 p.m. as Filed Flying V Arena.

Already out of the running for a Final Four slot, the Cardinals are gunning for a seventh win against the Pirates, who are vying to avoid sinking up to last place this season.

Laying the foundation for next season's campaign, Arellano and St. Benilde also look for confidence-building wins in the second game at 6 p.m.

Down-to-the-wire NCAA Final Four race looms

ELEVEN Pagsia (3) and John Tayongtong of Emilio Aguinaldo College double-team St. Benilde's Juan Edu in this file photo. [illegible]

By Cedell P. Tayao

FOUR teams brace for a down-the-wire finish in the second round of the 88th NCAA basketball tournament as they examine the three remaining Final Four berths.

With the eliminations round down to its final week, the postseason picture remains muddled as only San Beda has gained a spot in the semifinals with four Sebastian, Letran, Perpetual Help and Jose Rizal U all in contention for the three slots.

The Stags, Knights, Altas and Bombers could end up in a quadruple tie at second, which could mean an extended season for the league.

The last time this scenario happened was in Season 64, which was determined by the quotient system to rank the four teams and four playoff matches to determine the seeding, before the actual Final Four games.

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St. Clare guns for first Naascu title

By Myc Anthony Reyes

ST. CLARE gets its first crack at the championship when it faces Greenhills today in Game 2 of their National Athletic Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (Naascu) men's basketball title playoffs at Mapúa Cubayao.

The Saints, who won Game 1 last Thursday, 83-77, will have on their powerful lineup and their big desire to finally make it to the champion's roster in the 51-a-on match.

"We have one last hurdle the championship dose but it's not over until we get one more win," said St. Clare coach Ilene Manzanilla. "We still have to work very hard and prepare for the game because I'm very sure they will make some adjustments for Game 2."

The Scorpions, who are also in their first title series appearance, went to the brink of the fight in Game 1 until the final period with strong performances from Emil Dacia and Ryan Bellido.

CEU held St. Clare's gunners Jeff Pacinos and Jaypee Torres at bay with a solid defense, but Pacinos managed to pull through behind unheralded wingmen Kiark Robin Dolalas and Dennis Solomon.

"I give my respect to my teammates they were really a revelation," said Pacinos, who nevertheless scored 16 points, including six straight to ignite the early fourth-quarter rally that put the Saints ahead for good.

Pacinos is hoping to close his collegiate career on a bright note before embarking on a PBA D-League career with Racal.

CEU is coached by former assistant coach Egay Macaraya who succeeded Ilne Sebastian-Cortes to back to back titles in the league.

But Manzanilla, son of former PBA star Jimmy Manzanilla, is no stranger to a title series as he oversaw University of Manila to championship last year. Both MIC Cardo and UM are on indefinite leave from the league.

Aguilar misses Hornets' camp

By Jane Maruru

AGUILAR

OWNERS of an NBA breakthrough Jar 6-foot-9 Jayrich Aguilar sees hoop close.

Aguilar, who tried his luck in a two-day, 40-hour workout with New Orleans in Los Angeles last week, didn't make the Hornets' initial list tapped to go through a month-long camp along with established NBA players.

The 2012-2013 NBA season opens shop on Oct. 30 and there's little hope that the former Western Kentucky Hilltopper and former Blue Eagle star be invested in the Hornets' 14-man roster that will play in eight pre-season games.

The Hornets are scheduled to meet the Orlando Magic on Oct. 7 in Shanghai City, sandwiched by a pair of home games against the Houston Rockets (Oct. 11) and Cleveland Indians (Oct. 9).

Don Sellers, the Hornets' advance scout, said Aguilar was a work in progress if we seeing him in the pro ranks would be just pointed out that the games of the high-leaping forward of Tolk N' Text should be more "streamlined," meaning he should come out with more fire and hustle on the floor.

The Hornets left Aguilar out of the training camp lineup after entering Javier Miller, Brian Roberts and Lance Thomas.

According to Hoopsdope.com, Miller, a 6-foot-8 forward and a reklaser of Hornets' top draft pick Anthony Davis in Kentucky, is a strong choice as Aguilar's position.

The 6-6 Thomas came from Duke University and played for the USA Select Team during the summer while Roberts is a 6-1 guard from three-time champion Bandung in the Germian League.

Sellers noted Aguilar's agility and athleticism in bat needs workout, but said he "isn't ready for the big show yet."

Aguilar, the PBA's top draft pick in 2009, also had problems with the San Antonio Spurs and NBA Development League team Bakersfield Jam, are affiliate of the Atlanta Hawks, Toronto Raptors, Los Angeles and Phoenix Suns.

Tiong Lian teams ready to tackle collegiate rivals

TEAMS from Metro Manila Tiong Lian Basketball League (MBTL-BL) will not allow themselves to be bullied by rival teams from UAAP and NCAA when they compete against each other in the 1st Philippine Secondary Schools Basketball Championships (PSS-BC) which starts on Oct. 17 at Filed Flying V Arena in San Juan.

While UAAP and NCAA teams enjoy extra mileage when it comes to experience, Tiong Lian officials insist their teams have compensated scientific and conditioning.

In the era of the great Lin Tiong Bang and Jaws Co.

Lim and Co. are just some of the products of Tiong Lian who made a mark in the PBA.

"The top teams in the Tiong Lian league are no mere pushovers. They have produced several stars in the PBA and are now equally strong and big at the teams from UAAP and NCAA," said Hope Christian High School team manager Bernard Ting.

Ting's observation was echoed by Chiong Kai Shek College's Joel Yip, saying Tiong Lian teams now have strong basketball programs.

"At Chiong Kai Shek College, our alumni are contributing significantly to our sports program, especially in basketball," said Yip. "So I think they can match up well against teams from UAAP and NCAA."

Chiong Kai Shek College won the 2012 edition of Tiong Lian after beating Hope Christian in a gripping best-of-three title series last February.

Xavier School, which produced the likes of TY Ting, Jason Wy, Artu and Jevon Teng and the charismatic Dyan Ilu, is the other representative of Tiong Lian in the tournament hosted by Philippine Sports Commission, MIC, Hapee Toothpaste, Blackwater Sports, Diokno Underwear, Ironcon Builders, Jumbo Plastic Linoleum and Wrangler.

Mahindra Enforcer Jam Sevilla will be the commissioner of the tournament.

US bets pad Ryder Cup lead over Europeans

MEDINAH, Illinois—Though Tiger Woods lost for a third time this week, the United States tightened its grip on the 39th Ryder Cup by taking a commanding 10-6 lead over holder Europe at Medinah Country Club on Saturday.

After rookies Jim Phil Mickelson and Keegan Bradley inspired the Americans to win the morning's foursomes session 3-1, Bubba Watson and Webb Simpson led the way in the afternoon fourballs which were split 2-2.

Europe had trailed in three of the fourballs but Sergio Garcia and Luke Donald held off a fightback by Woods and Steve Stricker to seize one up before Rory McIlroy and Ian Poulter came from two down to beat Jason Dufner and Zach Johnson by the same margin.

Matchplay specialists Poulter finished with five consecutive birdies, the last of them a 15-foot putt in darling light to give the Europeans a slim hope of retaining the Cup heading into Sunday's concluding 12 singles encounters.

A strong European team had arrived at Medinah deadly resolved with the US bar with several of their top players not at their best, they face a daunting challenge on the last day.

The Americans famously pulled off the largest Ryder Cup comeback at Brookline in 1999 when they trailed 13-6 going into the final day and the European would have so much that to keep the trophy.

"These last two matches were massive," European captain Jose Maria Olazabal, who played that year at Brookline in the decisive match, said of his team's strong finish on Saturday.

"That gives us just a chance. It's been done before in the past. Tomorrow is going to be a big day. I believe that momentum will come our way and why not tomorrow?"

Love delighted

US captain Davis Love III, who has owned all 12 of his players for at least one session in Medinah, was delighted with his team's position, with just a further four-and-a-half points needed to regain the trophy.

"Our guys all played very well today," he said. "We lipped out a bunch of putts, and we hung in there, but we haven't lost a segment yet. We're just going to try tomorrow is loop that string going."

Left-handers Watson and Cup rookie Simpson earned the US their first point on a sunny afternoon as they defeated Englishman Justin Rose and Italian Francesco Molinari 5&4 in front of highly energized crowds.

Watson sealed the win with a two-putt birdie at the par-five 14th, but US Open champion Simpson paved the way to victory with a cool but probing display as he piled up seven birdies.

Dustin Johnson and Matt Kuchar added another point for the Americans when they held off a late charge by Belgium Europeans Nicolas Colsaerts and José Pinal Lamela to win one up.

With the match still square after 16 holes, Johnson effectively delivered the singles blow when he sank a curling 20-footer to birdie the par-three 17th and trigger three downs-threes from the crowd.

Woods and Stricker, benched for the morning's foursomes after losing their five matches, secured drama and rest when trailing Spaniard Garcia and Englishman Donald by four.

However Woods sparked after the loss with a run of five birdies in eight holes to take the match to the 18th on chances of "U.S.A, U.S.A" echoed across the course.

Stricker holed up a seven-foot birdie putt at the last that would have tied the match but his attempt lipped out. Reuters

WEBB Simpson (right) and Bubba Watson of the US celebrate Simpson's birdie on the 15th.

AFP Poulter sparks European rally.

Singles match-ups

MEDINAH, Illinois—Pairings at Ryder Cup on Saturday 14 men (all)

7:10 — Luke Donald, Europe, vs Bubba Watson, United States,
7:14 — Ian Poulter, Europe, vs Webb Simpson, United States,
7:22 — Rory McIlroy, Europe, vs Keegan Bradley, United States,
7:26 — Justin Rose, Europe, vs Phil Mickelson, United States,
7:40 — Matt Kuchar, United States, vs Zach Johnson, United States, 1UP — Sergio Garcia, Europe, vs Jose Maria Olazabal, Europe, 1UP — Nicolas Colsaerts, Europe, vs José Pinal Lamela, Europe, 1UP — Dustin Johnson, United States, vs Jason Dufner, United States, 1UP — Francesco Molinari, Europe, vs Paul Casey, England, 1UP — Steve Stricker, United States, vs Tiger Woods, United States, AP

Carolino, Sevilleno gain Milo run finals

JOBERT Carolino and Christy Sevilleno survived the difficult terrain of the Tagaytayan leg yesterday and made it to the national finals of the 10th National Milo Marathon.

Carolino crossed the 21K finish line in one hour, 15 minutes and 23 seconds to pocket the P50,000 top purse. Felix Genio failed to catch up with Carolino in the last 500 meters to settle for second place in 1:26:04. Jessie Palmos came in third in 1:27:33.

Sevilleno, competing in the Milo race for the past nine years, clocked 1:40:45 to top the distaff side. Another BIZ-IC runner, Rodelyn Calabrano, finished second in 1:41:36, while Helen Dionson was a distant third in 1:50:00.

The 28-year-old Carolino said he is determined to improve his pace and win the 42K national finals on Dec. 9 for BIZ International College where he is studying to become a programming technician.

"Since 2006, I have been joining races to fund my college education," said Carolino. "Through my efforts in the Milo Marathon, I am able to pursue a degree and take a step closer towards achieving a life goal of becoming a Programming Technician."

Sevilleno has been running in the Milo Marathon for nine years and is currently training a group of fitness enthusiasts in Bohol.

"When people ask me why I run, I tell them I receive substance a healthy lifestyle," said Sevilleno, a fitness trainer in Bohol.

Carolino and Sevilleno will join last week's Puerto Princesa victors Herbie Wavinal and Jhie de la Sosa, as well as winners of previous qualifying legs, in the finals at the SM Mall of Asia grounds in Pasay.

The Open division winners will pocket P500,000 while the top runner in the Local category will get P150,000. Romeo L. Subido

Who will melt in pressure cooker?

ONE GAME AT A TIME

Joe Sarmiento

THE TWICE-TO-BEAT edge in any local version of the Final Four for collegiate basketball allows them with the advantage to get rid of opponents quickly without having to go through a series before reaching the Finals.

UST and Ateneo, two of the country's oldest universities, arranged a showdown for the UAAP men's basketball crown by sipping their opponents last Saturday and prevented any chance of their opponents catching a second relief. The Blue Eagles and the Tigers took the first two spots after the two teams posted identical records. NU barged in to face the Tigers after winning the replayed game against FEU. The Green Archers came from behind against FEU in a 80 game to book the last ticket against the Blue Eagles.

NU's entry into the semifinals after a little over a decade ended when the Growling Tigers got the full strength of their pack to take the first finals seat with a 83-57 win. The Bulldogs seeded to extend the series but could not find other weapons to counter the hungry Tigers.

In the other semis duel, La Salle's sterling season-ending run grounded to a halt when the three-point shooting that severely threw when they pounded to maul. With Kelbe Sarona tossing his teammates on his back, Ateneo scratched and clawed Jeric 11 points down to squeeze out a 66-63 triumph.

Now it's the Blue Eagles and the Tigers more in the finals, the same contenders that clinched it out in a thrilling best-of-three finals-ender by UST in 2006.

The basketball game will most likely choose the Blue Eagles or win their fifth straight title. Diving coach Norman Black a fitting editor. It is a strong motivational tool. All the players the Eagles will care about is winning the title. The line of the many men

year with a new coach and without the generous support of patron Manny Pangilinan is no lie ahead in the future to think about.

The defending champions have a strong starting five and a reliable bench that gives Black enormous flexibility to can move the pieces around like a chess player without losing no coach further (rest or maestro) for his positions on the floor. The Blue Eagles also boast how to win in the end game as shown in their component against UST in the second round and La Salle in the Finals.

But don't count out the Tigers in the same way they were not counted out in 2006. Aldin Ennrill and company waged a fearless end game rally to stop Black from winning his first title. The current Tigers are good in every positions and have scorers and speedsters that can drive the Blue Eagles defensive backs. Ateneo's defense will have to handle fall marking Kevin Ferrer, Alper Mamaru, Jeric Fortuna, Jeric Teng and heartbreaking scorer Enrico Abdul.

So will it be the Eagles or the Tigers who will lord the UAAP jungle?

The squad that has the best turnovers, defensive lapses and problems with the officiating will have the decisive edge in the series. The UAAP finals are all about point in a merciless pressure cooker. Forget about those predictable intangibles like wanting it more or passion. Those will all be clues. Watch out for who can handle the heat or succumb to it.

Thousands run, ride for Pasig River

MANY Metro Manila residents joined Pasig's "BIG 30, 2012 Run, Ride & Walk for the Pasig River" drive around 10,000 participants yesterday despite heavy rains in Quezon City.

"There were still a lot of people despite the rain," said Sonia Lopez, managing director of ABS-CBN Foundation that operates KBYF. "They ran in the rain, they biked in the rain. It shows conviction. If people want it bad enough, we're going to clean the Pasig River."

Among the runners were Sen. Pia Cayetano, ABS-CBN chair and CEO Eugenio "Gabby" Lopez III, Ernie Lopez, Kim Atienza, Marlon Custodio, Kim Chiu, Maja Salvador and Gee Lim.

KBYF aims to raise P14 million in the run to clean up the riverbank of Quezon City as a part of the seven-year rehabilitation of the Pasig River.

Poker Tour tonight on Solar Sports

THE PILOT airing of the Philippine Poker Tours P10 million inaugural season is set on various Solar Sports channels starting at 9 p.m.

Sky Cable Channel 113 / Destiny Channel 55, Digital TV 31 and Cablelink 41 will air the first of three episodes of the celebrity edition by Dodge Bryant Lucas of the Metro Card Club in Pasay, PPT and Solar regional champion Ian Ong of the 10-leg nationwide series which will culminate in a Final Table of Champions among monthly winners in March.

SPORTS

LGBA derby finals at Pasay Cockpit today

THE FOURTH and final leg of Luzon Gamecock Breeders Association (LGBA) "Sisig Derby" series unfolds today at Pasay City Cockpit.

Gov. Jaclyn Suarez of Bataan, Governor Lagman of Laguna and Lyn Enriquez have 11 points each to share the first 2 rounds of the four-round derby. Bong Jocson and Bobby del Rosario tallied 10.5 points while then Cadiz Fiesta Specialist Ding Chiang, Alfredo Joy and Ogie Simon have 10 points apiece.

Lascuña second in Taiwan Masters

Earns ₱3.2M; Que ties for sixth

LASCUÑA: Runs to No. 1 in Asian Tour Order of Merit

TAIPEI—Antonio Lascuña threw-putted the 18th hole for a bogey and a 1-over 73 that still lifted him to second place in the Mercuries Taiwan Masters won by the second time in his career by Thai Chi-huang of Chinese Taipei Sunday.

The 40-year-old Filipino played windy golf in difficult conditions on the final day at the Taiwan Golf and Country Club and finished with an even par 288 total that gave him a purse of $72,000 (about P3.2 million) in the $600,000 Asian Tour event.

"I saw the scores and I knew I had a chance to win," said Lascuña, who had earlier rounds of 70-73-72. "But I was playing par golf for most of the second nine and couldn't score. I'm still happy with my result. I haven't been in this position for a long time."

With his huge payday, Lascuña, whose previous best finish this season was a tie for third in the ICTB Philippine Open last February, became the top Filipino in No. 13 in the Asian Tour Order of Merit with total earnings of $139,691.

He outscored Jyoti Randhawa, who was at No. 17 ($114,739) following six-for-fourth in the Asia Pacific Panasonic Open last week. However, Randhawa struggled in the Total Classic of the Japan Golf Tour held simultaneously with the Taiwan Masters, winding up in 53rd place at 289 (72-79-73-75).

Angelo Que also registered a top 10 finish here in his first tilt since his tie for sixth place at 291 (70-75-75-71) and picked up $19,500 (about P819,000). Eleste Salvador finished at 298 (75-74-75-74) and won $4,890 (about P205,000).

Tsai started the day with a six-shot lead and preserved his advantage as he beat Lascuña by four shots with a winning total of four-under par 284.

Besides David Lipsky of the United States, who won his first Asian Tour title earlier this year, also at 67, the best score of the day, to tie with Chan Shi-chuan of Chinese Taipei (71) for third place at 289.

Tsai endured a sleepless night as he had doubts of winning the tournament. With only a three-hour night's rest, he struggled early in the round as he was four-over after 13 holes but gained some momentum when he sank a huge 30-foot birdie putt on 14.

"Honestly I couldn't sleep last night. I was wondering if I could make it to the end. I felt like I was still sleeping when I was on the first tee box. It was only when I finished 10th hole that I knew my dream had come true," smiled Tsai, who won $120,000 for his victory.

"The wind was blowing all over the place and I wasn't the only one who was struggling. I guess I'm quite lucky to have won this," added the 44-year-old, who also won the Mercuries Taiwan Masters in 2002.

—Robert Eser Reyes

Top Final Leaders
Thai Chi-huang (T) [-1] 68-73-71-72—284—Antonio Lascuña (PHI) 70-73-72-73—288—David Lipsky (USA) [-1] 73-74-72-71—290—Chan Shi-chuan (TPE) [-1] 71-74-73-72—290—Tapan Kumar Sharma (IND) [-1] 73-73-72-72—290—Angelo Que (PHI) [-1] 70-75-75-71—291—Eleste Salvador (PHI) [-1] 73-74-75-70—292—Tsai Chung-han (TPE) [-1] 73-74-74-71—292—Jyoti Randhawa (IND) [-1] 70-73-74-75—292—Kwanchai Tangkamolprasert (THA) [-1] 74-73-74-71—292—Wang Wei-hsuan (TPE) [-1] 74-74-73-71—292—Jeevan Singh Sandhu (IND) [-1] 74-74-73-71—292—Prom Meesawat (THA) [-1] 74-74-73-71—292—Wang Jeh-chong (TPE) [-1] 74-74-73-71—292—Jason Knuttel (USA) [-1] 74-74-73-71—292—Jeev Milkha Singh (IND) [-1] 74-74-73-71—292—Jazz Janewattananond (THA) [-1] 74-74-73-71—292—Jeeva Singh (IND) [-1] 74-74-73-71—292—Siddikur Rahman (BAN) [-1] 74-74-73-71—292

Weiss: Best yet to come for Azkals

By Cedelf R Tupas

UNDER scrutiny after the exclusion of two of its most popular players, the Philippines proved once more equal to the challenge in the Peedee Montero Peace Cup.

Pulling off a down-match surge capped by a 3-1 conquest of Chinese-Taipei Saturday night at Rizal Memorial Stadium, the Azkals, playing some attractive football, captured their first international title for the country in 99 years.

While the bigger goal remains the AFF Suzuki Cup crown in November in Bangkok, the win was a huge confidence boost for the side that unleashed its youth brigade in the tournament.

But Azkals coach Michael Weiss has an ill-famous star the Peace Cup victory will easily translate to success in the Suzuki Cup.

"The truth of the last two matches must be paid off and the best is yet to come," said Weiss, whose side trained in Chicago for two weeks in August. "We hope to continue to build on this success."

With key players based in Europe unavailable amid the unannounced exchanging of Phil and James Younghusband, Weiss fielded a mix made up mostly of Under-23 players with the exception of veterans Chieffy Caligdong and Jervis Weiß, the tournament MVP and top scorer.

The likes of Jeff Christiaens, Dennitrio Omophoy, Gil Gonzales, Jason de Jong, Mariano Ingreso and Matthew Uy, who excelled with his distribution and composure at midfield, repaid Weiss' faith as they sustained in a cohesive display that led to a total of nine goals in three matches.

"We're happy that this young team is really showing what they are capable of," said Azkals manager Dan Palami. "Coach said the last game (both Socrates of a shaky start to "It gives us a lot of hope for the future."

Cracks show in Azkals eleven

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Mejo

I AM disturbed by reports that brothers Phil and James Younghusband have been removed from the Azkals football team over conflicts in their current contract issues.

Are the Younghusbands playing for money or flag and country? I have said this previously in news being asked considering that the brothers were partly responsible for the accelerated popularity of football in the country.

Even though the brothers did not play in a recent tournament, including the just-ended Peace Cup, where the Philippines emerged victorious for the first time in 99 years, beating Chinese Taipei, 3-1 at the new capacity Rizal Memorial football field, Phil and James' absence was hardly felt. The Azkals had also defeated a young team from Guam, 3-0 and humbled Macau, 2-0.

On the other hand, Azkals head coach Michael Weiss of Germany said Phil and James have overstretched their non-scores a little bit too much, noting that the two brothers have missed training sessions and matches in five of other consecutive months.

The Younghusbands have a number of ambitions apart from playing for the national team. They are also under contract with UFL club Loyola Meralco and run their own football academy aside from various commercial endorsements.

***

Playing cool, calculated pool, former world No. 1 billiards player Dennis Orcollo of the Philippines topped Chinese-Taipei's Lu Chi-hsien, 13-9, to win the recent 2012 China 9-Ball Open in Shanghai.

The pulsating victory clinched for the former fisherman from Bislig, Surigao, the first prize money of $40,000 (roughly P1.68 million). He also joined the elite ranks of world billiards players like Efren "Bata" Reyes, Francisco "Django" Bustamante and Alex "The Lion" Pagulayan.

"I was nervous," said Orcollo, a veteran international who now mans the Bugis Promotions suites of businessman Rony Markson. "But I just tried to calm down and enjoy the game. I have a lot of experience playing on the TV table and this helped me to overcome the pressure."

In making the finals, Orcollo upended another ace artist from Taiwan, Chang Yu-lung, scoring out the Taiwanese 11-8. Lu reached the finals by beating 2003 World 9-Ball champion Yukio Akihiro-Ipponse of Japan.

Orcollo, who will be back in the Olympics, a Filipino would have been a winner of that much-coveted Olympic gold. In a past issue of Billiards Digest, a prestigious magazine devoted mostly to pool aficionados, it reported that 14 out of the 49 world tournaments were won by players from the Philippines.

Spearheading the Filipino pool pros are Efren "Bata" Reyes, for longtime buddy and keepsaber Django Bustamante, Alex Pagulayan, Marlon Manalo, Dennis Orcollo, Ronnie Alcano, Antonio Gabica, Lee Vann Corteza, among others.

Billiards originated in England in the 14th century and popularized by French kids that can artists Captain Mingaud in 1790s and by Englishman Jack Carr in the early 1800s. In the US, the most famous players were Ralph Greenleaf and Willie Mosconi, 15-time American champion between 1948 and 1958.

Laguan Breeders 'Dignaan Pasabong' slated Oct. 28

THE LAGUNA Breeders & Cockers Club (LBCC), one of the Philippine Federation of Gamefowl Breeders' 41 local affiliates, will begin its campaign to bring home the trophy of the first Dignaan Pasabong Pambansa & Sisig Derby on Oct. 28 at Dekada Mega Cockpit in Sta. Rosa, Laguna in the first of two 2-day elimination rounds.

Led by its president, Bryant Valdez, LBCC, despite having been formed only last December, is now composed of 136 members and still growing.

With the full backing of Thunderstorm Energy, LBCC will have its second Dignaan 2-day derby on Oct. 27 at WC Kalayaan Coliseum in Kalayaan, Laguna.

LBCC semifinal round-2-day derby is for 1, 1.6 and 2 pointers on Sat. 17 at Lopez Coliseum in Los Baños, Laguna. The finals (4-stag derby) for 3, 3.5 and 4 pointers will be on Sun. 14. Guaranteed of weights and Dignaan weighted survivors from the day before will derby-day.

For inquiries, call 09184-0-0-0 SEE ... 0919 2328202 or 0918 6869828.

Editor: Raul G. Morada • Assistant Editor: Corrie S. Mariano

BUSINESS

Manufacturing 'renaissance' in PH seen

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE	STOCK MARKET
Sept. 28, 2012	Sept. 28, 2012
41.700	44.61

Deutsche Bank notes surge since 2010

By Doris C. Dumlao

AFTER decades of reliance on remittances and the business process outsourcing sector, the Philippines may be on the brink of a manufacturing "renaissance" that can add a leg to its structural growth story, according to German financial giant Deutsche Bank.

BANKTRACK.O.C

IN THIS ISSUE

■ **Biz Buzz:** Banker's big day arrives /B3
■ **Investment funds** prepare for Obama victory /B3-4

Sun Business offers SMEs cost-efficient and flexible communications for as low as P250/month

In today's fiercely competitive and highly commoditized business landscape, every small and medium-enterprise (SME) is faced with the challenge of offering more than just a good product or service. After a day's worth of grueling campaigns and promotions, the battleground inevitably goes from top-line to the bottom line. Revenue is good but profit is ever better.

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First launched by Sun Cellular in 2006 as part of its postpaid offerings for individual consumers, the Fixed Load Plan service promotes all the other services offered in the industry today.

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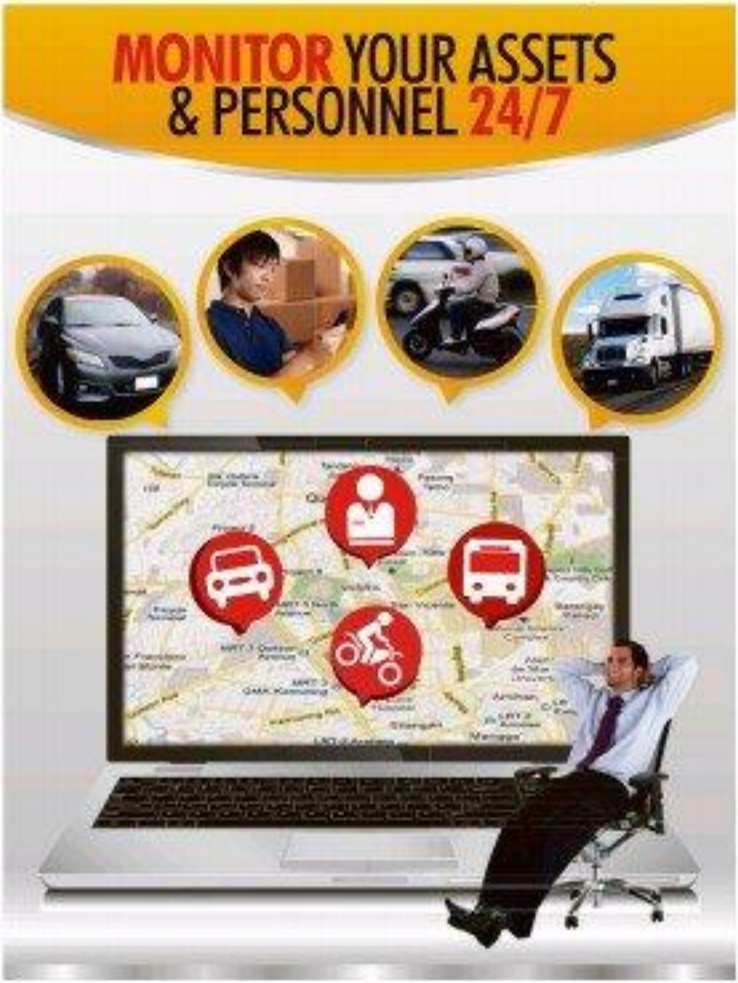

PH, Thai, Myanmar firms form rice consortium

By Doris C. Dumlao

Group to use proprietary technology of SL Agritech

KEY AGRIBUSINESS groups from the Philippines, Myanmar and Thailand have formed a consortium to develop a formidable Southeast Asian rice supply chain using the proprietary hybrid and premium rice technology of local firm SL Agritech Corp.

Henry Lim Ian Teng, chair and chief executive of SL Agritech—which is part of the funding Fuqua group of companies—said his group signed a few weeks ago a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the BTC group of Myanmar and Capital Rice Co. Ltd. of Thailand to set up the framework for a rice supply chain.

"If we're talking about Asean (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) partnership, it's a good Asean partnership," Lim said in an interview with the business. He said the vision of the consortium was "to become the biggest rice consortium" in the region.

SL Agritech will contribute its rice technology and varieties to the venture while the Myanmar partner will provide the land for production. The Thai partner will handle global marketing.

The recently signed MOU provided for the conduct of feasibility studies to identify the land to be productive and viable; partnership details by end-December this year. "By next year, we hope to start (production) already," Lim said.

The production base of the consortium will be in Myanmar, where rent is very low and the government provides a lot of tax incentives, Lim said. It will also be in Myanmar where a company to be owned by the consortium will be incorporated.

Partner BTC group in Myanmar's leading manufacturer, marketer and distributor of alcoholic beverages. Its agribusiness arm is DAMSA Industrial Fast Moved Rice Agricultural Co. Ltd.

Capital Rice, which is part of the STC group, is one of Thailand's top rice exporters. Lim estimated the Thai partner's exports at 1–2 million metric tons its 2011 while the national average was about 1.6 million MT.

Lim said initial investment in the venture would not be too big at about $10 million to $20 million.

SL Agritech will initially contribute its high-yielding SL 801 hybrid rice variety to the venture but Lim said this might also be a springboard for the premium India Mariscator variety.

"For Doña Maria rice, we have a big market also. Five years ago, show-seven (expansion rice traders who wanted to plant 200,000 MT seeds but it was impossible since we are importing 900,000 MT every year," Lim said.

Lim said SL Agritech was likewise working with the Tree group of businessman Joy Sy on the regional ventures.

Even before the consortium, SL Agritech has been selling its hybrid rice seeds to other Southeast Asian countries.

SL Agritech started in 1998 as an unincorporated entity performing research work on hybrid rice, inspired by the success of China in becoming a rice-plus producer and exporter of rice despite its large population base. The firm finally sought and obtained the assistance of notable Chinese scientist Yuan Long-Ping in develop hybrid rice varieties suitable to tropical conditions prevalent in the Philippines.

Starting modestly with land provided by the government's department of Agriculture in 1999, the company initiated the development of several hybrid rice parental lines, which were later transferred in a 40-hectare farm in Sta. Cruz, Laguna, that now houses the research and breeding complex of the company. Its proprietary hybrid rice SL-8H, which was initially released during the dry season in 2003-2005, marked the start of the company's expansion and the development of its marketing organization.

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Manufacturing

From page B1

In a report titled "Manufacturing: A New Growth Driver" issued last week, the bank said it remained "tenuously bullish" on the Philippine economy spatially as the investment cycle "seems to have turned sustainably upward." While most key are on the government's public-private partnership (PPP) infrastructure to be the linchpin of an investment-led growth, the manufacturing paper said the possibility for manufacturing—which remained "under the radar" despite an evidence of a surge since 2013—could be a key driver as well.

As a share of gross domestic product, industry peaked at 43 percent in the early 1960s falling to 32 percent in the first semester of 2012 — a low last seen more than the 1950s, the report noted. On the other hand, services fueled by remittances and BPO contributed nearly 60 percent, in turn driving consumption higher.

"But evidence points to a nascent surge in the manufacturing sector—a renaissance of sorts. More startling, the growth seems to be coming from the export sector. In fact, an objective reading of the data suggests the rebound has been happening for at least two years now," said the Sept. 24 research anchored by analysts Rahul Gurbaxani, Carlo Rhinehold and Ira Poblador.

Security Bank pointed out that loan growth, electricity and power usage and even exports have consistently shown strong incremental growths since 2011. It also favorably noted that investment commitments in export zones that now all-time high in 2011, suggesting further demand growth as the plants are completed.

"And the breadth of industries is impressive. Makers of everything from tires, chemicals, ceramics, printers, toys, linens, boats, igniters are harnessing and utilize gallons on expanding capacity," the research said.

It was often argued in the past that high labor and power costs and poor infrastructure were making the country uncompetitive in manufacturing, thus driving the economy to search services.

According to Deutsche Bank, labor wages have been "remarkably stable" in the Philippines, with minimum wage growth—if just 3 percent annually in the last decade—pegged to the sharp increases in Thailand and China wages, making the English-speaking Filipino worker "much more competitive by default." It said the recent 40-percent increase in Thai wages, for example, had brought the premium of Metro Manila wages (at about $0.8/$ a day) over Bangkok (at about $0.72/$ a day) to just 10 percent. Bangkok and Shanghai minimum wages are now about the same as, or more expensive than, in some key outside Manila.

On power cost, the research said while these remained the highest in the region, some firms reported trading off peak hours when rates were lower. It also pointed out that companies operating in Philippine Economic Zone Authority-accredited zones were exempt from a variety of taxes, which sold lower their effective rates by another 10 percent and further narrow the price differential. Finally, it argued that with the upcoming implementation of "open access"—wherein large electricity users could negotiate supply contracts directly with power generators and aggregators—electricity rates could go down further.

On infrastructure, the research said that while it was true that the Philippines was suffering from poor internal connectivity, it was an ambiguous and, as such, had many see points across the country. It also noted the incentives offered by Peza for manufacturing, including duty-free importation of capital equipment and raw materials. There is eight-year corporate income tax holidays and value-added tax exemption for locators, power, property and remuneration taxes.

Meanwhile, the research noted that the key downside risk in the manufacturing sector's competitiveness was the strong peso.

Overall, the study said a prospective manufacturing "renaissance" could add another leg to the Philippine stock market's bull story and "open up new jobs, power, property and remuneration themes."

While it said there were few direct plays on a resurgent manufacturing sector, Deutsche Bank's top pick for the theme was Manila Electric Co., the country's biggest power distributor.

Banker's big day arrives

A BIG CHANCE is coming to this foreign bank this month after the big finance ceremony decided to finally put a Filipino in charge of local operations.

According to our sources, the decision has been made a few days ago but, in line with the banking giant's dream of "localization," it would finally appoint a local to run its huge Philippine business.

This is, of course, a major landmark for the bank considering that no Filipino has ever run it despite having been in the country for more than a century now.

It has not always been smooth sailing for the soon-to-be-named country manager though. We've had his fair share of challenges as he was in the top of the corporate ladder and also has his fair share of detractors (and of others also, no doubt, envious of the mega deals he always seems to bag, be it with the government or in the private sector).

The icing on the cake for Mr. Big Bold Banker, however, was his most recent deal, which he managed to pull off successfully despite having a slew of roadblocks underway at the sprouting adverse reports about the deal (while reducing nice underwriting fees on the side, of course).

We've told that Mr. Big Bold Banker's appointment will be made public in exactly two weeks, while the incumbent foreign head of the local operations will get another post in his home country.

Expect Mr. Big Bold Banker's "International" to announce comments off of e-mailers in the coming days as word of his appointment trickles its way into the markets. *Reuters L. Lucas*

Rockwell's 'high drama' development

IF YOU are wondering who Carlton Oh is and why his face is splashed on billboards along Edsa, ask agents developer Rockwell Land Corp.

Oh—an Uruguayan architect who designed the D'Open de la Bastille in Paris—is working with the Lopezes' real estate firm to develop the former Philippine headquarters of Colgate Palmolive into another "urban fantasy" mixed-use development dubbed the "Downtown."

The story behind the concept name? Powerman swears "in front of the towers," which, officials say, emphasizes the high drama that many are expecting from what Rockwell claims is another potential landmark in Edsa.

Oh's first project in the country is set to rise on the 1.6-hectare site adjacent to Rockwell Center and is expected to address the "serious demand for new Class A office units in Makati," officials say.

The only tidbit that has been leaked so far is that the project will consist of five office/luxury residential towers, retail and cultural space, as well as a 400-seater performing arts theater.

No news yet, however, as to when Rockwell will formally unveil its latest creation. I guess we'll just have to wait for the invitations. *Amy R. Remo*

Jack the power newbie

CHINOY industrialist Antonio "Jack" Ng may delve in the power generation business as the third party in a binational bidding between Manila Electric and Chile's Colbun to undertake a P12.5-billion coal-fired power plant project in Iloilo. This is a 120-megawatt project targeted to start operations by 2016, expandable by another 135 MW and aimed to ease the local power supply in the Panay and Negros grids.

Project proponent Rowan is keen on maximizing not just the Aquino bus the Ng's Chinese connects as well, obviously to diversify risks in the typically-intensive undertaking.

A source familiar with the discussions told *BizBuzz* that Ng wanted to acquire a 50-percent stake in the project. Rowan will retain 40 percent while Aseda, through AC Energy Holdings, will get 40 percent. Ng's bid to deal may be finalized within this month, sources noted.

The Iloilo project is scheduled to break ground in the fourth quarter of this year. Rowan, for its part, has done all the preliminary work and investments during the past two years. The project—now in an advanced stage of predevelopment—is ready to take off. The engineering plans are ready and important regulatory approvals have been secured. It's the month that's now being finalized.

With the prospective partnership, the underneath Ng hopes to learn the ropes of the power generation business that he can scale up in the future to add to his broad array of earning. Fashion Group), Holding Unit United Bank) and hotel (Oakwood Design Council-owned) goods. *Boni C. Dandan*

Intra-Cabinet debates

THE DEPARTMENT of Transportation and Communications has shot back at the Department of Public Works and Highways in the never-ending debate over issues affecting the contractor could opposed by the country's most famous "bi-national."

To recall, the DPWH had questioned before Malacañang the Department of Justice's decision to recognize the exclusivity of the supermarket franchise of the state-owned Philippine Tourism Authority Corp. (the toll-rate project partner of Lim) as well as the DOJ's failure to recognize that the DPWH had the power to enter into infrastructure contracts pursuant to the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) law, notwithstanding the PTAC franchise.

The appeal is what is governing the Toll Regulatory Board, an attached agency of the DOTC. From personnel to the road alignment of PNCC (and now in partnership with San Miguel Corp.) for its North-South Luzon connector road project.

In a manifestation against the DPWH's appeal to Malacañang, the DOTC and the DOJ's ruling in the case was "final" as well as "conclusive and binding" upon all parties. The department argued that the secretary of justice—being the ex-officio legal adviser of all government corporations and entities—had legal authority to settle matters involving questions of law. It also noted that appeals from DOJ decisions were limited to those involving offenses punishable by reclusion perpetua or death (please say!). *Dwight C. Dumlao*

Shifting tectonic plates

THE SHIFT from traditional to online advertising is going to get a lift in the years this week with the plan of a "fundamental consumer goods" giant to shift more of its advertising budget to new media platforms.

According to our sources, Procter and Gamble has decided to make a "gradual but sure" shift to marketing and advertising in online platforms.

The firm has commissioned a study for this and the results have come back showing that spending for online and new media platforms are steadily becoming more cost effective than traditional forms.

More importantly (and perhaps a little alarmingly for traditional media platforms), the shift will begin in consumer goods high and no platform pos-

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Century Properties forays into shopping mall sector

Retail center rising in Makati City project

By Doris C. Dumlao

PROPERTY developer Century Properties will debut in the shopping mall business with the opening next year of a community retail center in its flagship mixed-use development Century City in Makati.

The five-storey Century City Mall is under construction and will make available for rent 116 retail units that will create a new stream of recurring income to complement earnings from residential developments.

Century's co-chief operating officer and managing director Marco Antonio said in a statement that the mall would serve as the neighborhood lifestyle center for thousands of future residents, tenants, employees and visitors in the 5.4-hectare Century City complex.

"In true Century Properties tradition, we have planned an entirely unique and different lifestyle experience for the visitors of Century City Mall," Antonio said. "We, as developers, feel retail is an integral component of every mixed-use development, specially as when it has residential buildings. Similar to how we have incorporated innovation, quality and value to our other projects, we will seek to elevate the lifestyle experience a notch higher in our first ever retail development."

The five-storey mall will have a gross floor area of 50,000 square meters. There basement level with 527 parking slots have been allotted for visitors' parking.

The retail center also seeks to attract residents from nearby villages. The mall will have a supermarket and stores for essentials, concept shops, food cinemas, cafes and restaurants.

Century City is also the site of luxury residential towers Century Residences, Knightsbridge Residences, the Strozzi Home interior designed William Bondurant, Trump Tower an Century City and the outpatient medical building called Centuria Medical Makati. The completion dates of these buildings will soon from December 2012 to 2016.

The Century group, led by the Ambrosio family, has 26 years of experience in real estate development, marketing and property management. It has completed 20 condominium buildings 14,320 units with a total gross floor area of 948,282 sq.m and was managing 31 properties as of end- 2011.

Stocks seen to pull back

LOCAL stocks can pull back this week after last week's quarter-end window-dressing and improved global sentiment brought the main index closer to record highs.

The Philippine Stock Exchange index gained 54 points or 1 percent last week to close at 5,548.13 on Friday. The index is nearing the all-time high closing of 5,569.08 and the record intra-day high of 5,603.10 both set last July.

"With the market rebounding to rise above the 5,500 levels, the market appears tired and in need of a much needed correction," said Banco de Oro Universal Bank chief strategist Jonathan Ravelas.

Ravelas said a break below the 5,200 levels could call for further losses toward the 5,200 levels in the near-term. "At this moment, the near-term bias still calls for a retest of the July 4 high of 5,603.36," he said.

In its weekly macroeconomy BPI Securities said this week, "[we] are concerned more for limited to zero selected stocks with downward bias and possible profit-taking." It noted that some US economic indicators lately revealed that the world view the Fed's manufacturing index, consumer spending, jobless claims, federal Open Market Committee minutes and employment data.

On Market Securities said that in the absence of stimulus announcements, investors would focus on the latest European developments, particularly on recent protests against austerity measures in Greece and Spain, and the uncertainty over a bailout application which would give the European Central Bank authority over national sovereign bonds in the meantime. It said the US economy may show poor job growth and the Dec. 31 deadline of the fiscal cliff might come to the forefront.

Doris C. Dumlao

UCPB corporate life extended by 50 years

UNITED Coconut Planters Bank has obtained approval from the Securities and Exchange Commission to extend its corporate life by another 50 years to 2063, thus covering its members to assist in continued development, specially in the countryside.

The SEC recently approved an amendment to UCPB's Articles that extended its corporate term. "With the extension of the bank's corporate life under a new banking framework, its growth momentum toward becoming a bigger and stronger financial institution," UCPB president and chief executive Jesusito Ritchie said in a statement.

In his message to the officers and staff of the bank, Ritchie said: "In the past, UCPB made opportunistic strides toward its current shape. As we face another 50 years, I am confident that we will succeed given your perseverance, hard work and commitment. We have bright prospects ahead of us."

In a recent interview, Ritchie said he expected UCPB's net profit this year growing by 20 percent to P3.6 billion given a double-digit expansion in loan book and strong trading gains early in the year. Lending to mid-sized corporations and consumers is seen boosting profits this year.

On the other hand, he said full-year treasury gains would likely be less than last year's when the share market's sustained rallies created a lot of opportunities.

The bank is looking to grow its loan book by at least 10 percent this year but the projected growth in consumer lending will be much better at 30 percent. Doris C. Dumlao

Private construction projects up 11% in Q2

By Ana G. Roa

PRIVATE construction projects grew by 11.2 percent in the second quarter, according to the National Statistics Office.

The NSO said the number of projects in the second quarter, which covered building permits, reached 38,614, up from 27,525 a year ago. NSO's figures were based on approved building permits.

Of the total, 21,738 were new residential projects, up by 30.6 percent from year-ago level, while 3,037 were nonresidential projects, up by 15.5 percent from the same quarter last year.

Residential projects include single type, duplex, apartments and residential condominium, while nonresidential projects include commercial, industrial, agricultural and institutional buildings.

In the meantime, approved applications for additions, alterations and repairs of existing structures rose by 30.6 percent to 4,519 in the second quarter.

Among regions, Calabarzon had the highest number of construction projects with a share of 22.8 percent of the total, followed by Central Luzon with 3,741 or 12.2 percent of the total and Metro Manila with 3,523 or a share of 11.5 percent.

By province, Cavite recorded the highest number of construction projects with 2,799 followed by Cebu with 1,845 and Bulacan in third with 1,553.

The NSO said the aggregate value of construction projects in the second quarter hit P68.9 billion, up from the P55.7 billion posted a year ago.

Steel the spotlight

Controls it. Period. III

NOT MANY of us have heard of Pisi, or the Philippine Institute of Steel and Iron, the affiliated grouping of steel manufacturing companies.

And just how hardly anybody at the Aquino [Phil III] administration set up when Pisi recently rang the alarm bells, aimed at the country's booming appetite for steel imports without China.

Pisi experts say the country has to watch out for such imports today, not only because it is bound to slaughter the local steel industry, but also because it may put a lot of lives in danger.

It was as if Pisi was talking to a deaf government.

In the Pisi spotlight in the next few months are some 30,000 tons of steel shipments from China, declared as "square bars" on paper, but they are actually steel billets that local steel companies use to make finished products.

By declaring them "square bars," the importers can reduce the price of the steel from China, because the Chinese government gives up to 17 percent subsidy for that steel product.

The subsidy aside from being unfair trade practice, reduces the amount of tax (such as the 22 percent VAT) that the importers must pay to the Philippine government.

From what I gathered, several local companies already booked the steel shipments from China. Based goes around the local steel industry that Customs officials know the identities of these importers.

Here is a case in point: Only last month, some 3,000 tons of "square bars" [arrived through Customs at the Harbour Center, a drop-off point in the Port of Manila.

The local steel industry has been crying foul against the modus operandi of having "billets" passed off as "square bars," which was illegal because it was pure and simple "misdeclaration"—i.e. technical smuggling.

Perhaps that was the reason why Customs Commissioner Ruffy Biazon insisted that there was no smuggling in the country. Look, sir, it was not smuggling, it was "technical" smuggling.

To the guys down here, the most important issue that was raised by Pisi was public safety. Pisi had asked the government to test the steel imports from China to verify conformity with the Philippine National Standards. Up to now no body is doing anything about it.

Our neighbors like Malaysia and Indonesia are now doing their rough checking and mechanical tests on Chinese steel shipments, thus doing for quality and strength.

Reports in the past 12 months showed that more than 10 major structures had collapsed in China, such as the Huangpu Bridge in Suzhou City, where the ramp suddenly broke.

Thus, other countries are starting to question the quality of steel they import from China, and they want to make sure that the imported steel does not come from some old steel mills or those with bad reputation.

In the past several years, China was on a frenzy building new steel plants, although it never slowed down the old ones. That country thus now has a capacity of 900 million tons a year. The United States only has 90 million tons.

Reports now indicate an economic slowdown in China, which caused a steel glut of some 300 million tons a year. It seems that the Chinese government subsidizes steel exports (such as "square bars") to get rid of the glut.

Such subsidy can have the effect of dumping. Chinese steel mills in countries like the Philippines. One steel companies can now small their own death from the hands of the Chinese exports.

Their death will mean the loss of jobs to at least 20,000 workers. It also means that the investors lose their shirt, because they have already invested heavily in the steel business.

Our experts figured that we would soon have a voracious appetite for steel. Today we can steel equivalent to 45 kg per capita, way below those of other countries such as Korea (1,126 kg) or Malaysia and Thailand (more than 200 kg).

But official forecast showed a vibrant Philippine economy, increasing the demand for construction steel bars and beams for instance by 15 percent a year. In fact, the BOI identified steel a priority sector for investments.

In steel bar manufacturing, alone, the locals have already reinvested their capacity by more than 2 million tons a year.

Such is the fledgling industry that steel smuggling is bound to billionaire of China.

Wait, hold it—do not throw away those old two-way handheld radio systems. They may be old technology now but they may come in handy during calamities such as typhoons and earthquakes, when mobile phone networks are down, according to the NTC, the National Telecommunications Commission.

Just recently, the Aquino (Phil II) administration gathered various groups that had anything to do with this growing concern called "Bayan" preparedness," hoping to resolve interim to the old back handheld radio.

The gathering, held at the GSIS Convention Center three weeks ago, was called SeaWave. It was attended by 12 government agencies, the Red Cross, Bayan's Old Internationale and 19 volunteer radio groups who are trying to come up with ways to use handheld radios for disaster response.

The NTC is also launching an "amnesty" campaign, offering to return expired licenses of amateur radio enthusiasts by (2006), as against the P1,000 regular fee, on top of waiving penalties.

Moreover, the NTC has just revived the Class "D" license (basic radio operations) and lowered the minimum age (18 years) required for a license. Why? Well, it is a given young children must be able to communicate, especially if their parents are casualties of calamity.

From what I gathered, NTC will swap four channels in the government and volunteer groups, using separate towers of amateur radio groups, which will be banked up by power generators.

Now that is disaster preparedness.

Thrift banks projected to post double-digit lending growth

By Michelle V Ramos

THRIFT BANKS industry said the cost back on auto, housing and other consumer loans remained rosy for 2013.

According to Patrick Cheng, president of the Chamber of Thrift Banks, lending by industry members is expected to continue posting double-digit growth next year. He said it would be driven primarily by consumer loans, especially car and housing.

"The economy is doing well. If the economy continues to grow at a healthy pace as projected, the increase in loans will stay in double-digit levels," Cheng told reporters.

He said a robust economic growth, which indicated rising incomes, would fuel more demand for automobiles, thereby increasing requirements for car loans.

On housing loans, Cheng said thrift banks saw a huge opportunity for credit growth, especially outside Metro Manila.

He said the recent increase in housing loans was accounted for largely by demand in Metro Manila. He said demand for real-estate loans in the provinces was also expected to grow over the short to medium term.

"We see more and more lending growth opportunities outside Metro Manila. There is still a huge market. Our retention ratio support," he said.

Data from the BSP showed that the combined outstanding loans extended by thrift banks amounted to P402.54 billion as of the end of March, up by 11.7 percent from P354 billion a year ago.

Thrift banks serve the credit needs of consumers, and small and medium enterprises.

Cheng said the thrift banking sector was expected to maintain its 2013 a growth rate, which would at least be double of the rate of the economy's expansion.

Data from the BSP further showed that thrift banks in the country had generated a combined net income of P2.2 billion in the first quarter, up by 16 percent from P1.86 billion in the same period last year.

In the first quarter, the economy grew by 6.3 percent year-on-year. In the first half, the average growth of the economy stood at 6.1 percent.

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BUSINESS

Study says stressed PH workforce ready to crack

42% of Filipino workers in survey note increased pressure

FILIPINO workers are getting more stressed, according to the latest research by workplace provider Regus. The survey, canvassing the opinions of more than 14,000 professionals across the globe, found that almost half of Filipino workers (42 percent) said their stress levels have risen over the past year.

A number of external factors such as traffic congestion and the impact of the recent natural disaster as well as continuing instability in the world economy were thought to have fueled the growing constant and respondents confirmed that most times triggers were of a professional rather than personal nature, with their job, management and perceived finances topping the list of causes.

The research also focused on possible solutions and found that well more than half (60 percent) of Filipino respondents identified flexible working as a way of curbing stress.

Among the key findings of the study:

- Male clients of them more work. (50 percent), management (42 percent) and personal finances (39 percent).
- 69 percent of respondents said flexible working reduces stress.
- More than half (57 percent) of respondents think flexible working is more family-friendly.
- With 56 percent of respondents saying that flexible working is also cheaper than fixed location working and 83% that it improves productivity, it would seem that helping staff to de-stress is also highly cost-effective.
- Globally, small business workers were more likely to be stressed by customers (42 percent) than large business workers (27 percent), but were less valued by management (28 percent) than their counterparts in larger firms (49 percent).

Filipe Sant, CEO of Regus Asia, said, "Without a doubt stressed-out workers are unhappy and unhealthy workers too, so businesses that want to help them instill lead more sensible lives cannot hope to motivate and tackle levels of stress within their organizations. Yet the heavy toll of stress falls not only on workers, but also on businesses as they find their staff is unable to perform as required, needs more sick leave and is less efficient."

Continuing previous Regus research showing that 39 percent of workers felt healthier directly as a result of flexible working, Sant said the corporate must clearly identified flexible working as one possible solution to their high stress levels. "In addition to the fact that proper flexibility is more finely tuned to helping improve their overall work-life balance and well-being. Add to this that flexible working is believed to improve productivity and to cost less than traditional office working and the case for helping employees to de-stress by increasing flexibility becomes substantial," he said.

Arlene Lim, country manager of Peopleborne, added, "Levels of stress continue to increase across the world with workers getting closer and closer to 'burnout.' In the short term this means losing valuable workers and dealing with lower productivity as staff battle it out with stress-related health problems, insecurity and exhaustion, but the long-term effects of this pressure are well difficult to predict and could be disastrous."

Regus is the world's biggest provider of flexible workplaces, with products and services ranging from fully equipped offices to professional meeting rooms, business lounges and the world's largest network of video conferencing studios. More than a million customers a day benefit from Regus facilities spread across a global footprint of 1,200 locations in 500 cities and 96 countries, which allow individuals and companies to work whenever, however and wherever they need to. Regus, founded in Brussels, Belgium, in 1989, is headquartered in Luxembourg and listed on the London Stock Exchange.

LEVELS of stress continue to increase with workers getting closer and closer to "burnout," which means losing valuable workers and dealing with lower productivity. NOEL CELIS/AFP

PAL vows to end dispute with workers

By Paolo G. Montecillo

Flag carrier Philippine Airlines' (PAL) long history of dealing with labor woes may finally end with the company's new management making serious attempts to restore good relations with its workers.

PAL president Ramon S. Ang said the company's top officials are ready to the negotiation table with its former workers—under the PAL Employees Association (Palea)—to explore various options, including the reinstatement of former workers.

"Both sides are being reasonable. Things are looking better and we are starting to understand each other," Ang said, describing the new management's first meeting with Palea officials last month. "We are not out about this."

Ang, who sits on as president and chief operating officer of PAL new controlling shareholder San Miguel Corp., said the resolution of the labor dispute with Palea was one of the airline's top priorities.

The dispute stemmed from the previous management's decision to shut down three "non-core" departments, particularly the airline's call center reservations, airport services and in-flight catering groups, after these activities were outsourced.

The legality of the outsourcing scheme was questioned by Palea before the Court of Appeals, which has yet to decide on the case.

About 2,400 workers were laid off as a result of the move but were accepted jobs at the outsourcing companies that took over the PAL activities. The outsourcing was done as a way to cut costs and turn the airline around.

The flag carrier posted a net income of $1.1.4 million in April to May of 2012, the first quarter of the airline's current fiscal year.

"We want to find a solution. What they are asking for, and what we can give, we will make the two meet," Ang said. "What's important is that we treat them humanely."

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MWSS to bid out ₱5.72-B Angat rehab project

By Kitz T. Ochonde

THE METROPOLITAN Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) is preparing to bid out the contract for the rehabilitation of Angat Dam, which supplies water to Metro Manila's 15 million residents and irrigates 27,000 hectares of farmlands in Bulacan and Pampanga.

"Details of the planned bidding may be published next week," MWSS chair Ramon Alikpala told reporters.

The cost of the project, which will be done in two phases, will be funded by the government.

Alikpala said MWSS was also set to study rehabilitation options for the sewer transmission line between Angat and the La Mesa Reservoir, from which concessionaires Manila Water Co. Inc. and Maynilad Water Services Inc. get their respective raw water allocation.

MWSS is also seeking help from the DPWH (under on which projects to package under the public-private partnership project.

Metro Manila's water reserves (water supply available aside from the projected demand) operates loans and a 15- percent buffer) may be at risk in five years without the development of new water sources, a more efficient and well maintained distribution network, and the rehabilitation of old facilities. Any heatwave of extended drought amid higher demand may threaten water reserves, sources said.

The Angat Dam rehabilitation project is among the P67 billion worth of projects approved by the National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) to boost the country's ability to cope with demographic and connections deadly floods.

The 44-year-old dam provides 97 percent of the water requirements of Metro Manila and generates 246 megawatts of power.

The Neda Board approved earlier

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BUSINESS Monday Assistant Features Editor Margie Quiniquini-Espino

For PH unit of Kraft Foods, 'Grace' is the boss

By Cecile Sabiniano Maniago

IF PRESIDENT Aquino claims to love us, the Filipino people, as his boss, Kraft Foods (Philippines) Inc. has Grace.

And just like the President's boss, Kraft's Grace refers to no particular person. Instead, it alludes to every Filipino woman who decides what to feed her family.

Grace is Kraft's new mantra, and a run named to honor a research commissioned by the company a few years ago showed that it was the most common female name in the country.

Not if Grace at the box and the icon is important, we need to get intimate with her: know what she wants and needs. The aim is to keep her satisfied and happy," says Kraft Philippines general manager Sudipta Bhattacharya.

This period the way for "marketing Grace," not the Christian way but an innovation dished by the Philippine unit of Kraft to purchase in millions.

The idea is supposed to focus efforts that it was adopted by several other Kraft branches overseas. It is one of Kraft Philippines' influences to the Kraft group's global operations.

Kraft Foods (Philippines) is a wholly subsidiary of multinational firm Kraft Foods Inc. and a business unit of Kraft Foods Asia Pacific.

It makes popular cheese brands Kraft Eden Cheese, Cheese-Wiz and Kraft Cheddar, and salad and sandwich spreads Mirácle Whip and Kraft Real Mayo in its plant in Pandacan City.

It also distributes Kraft Foods global brands including honey star Sans Temp and Kool Aid flavors, cookies-biscuits Tiger Energy Biscuits, Oreo and Chips Ahoy!, chocolate products Toblerone and Cadbury, candies Halls, Clorets and Trident, and coffee brand Maxwell House and baking powder Calumet.

Focus on Grace

Kraft Foods Philippines' operations are to be guided not the boss. In way of doing things, according to Bhatt, follows an internal process and not new Grace, the boss, is on top, the company's frontline people in the middle, while the company's executives are in the bottom.

Among Grace, according to Bhatt, is an immersion program that you company employees, as their offices Or Lolo to meet or invite a year to spend time with customers. Each employee goes to their run, work and jobs with Grace for a day or two. If Grace is a housewife, then the Kraft employee stays with her in the house, accompanies her to the market and helps her prepare meals for the household. The objective is to learn her better, how she thinks, what her dreams and aspirations are and how she spends.

Typically, Bhatt says, companies rely only on third-party researchers to get the pulse of the market.

"Surveys and such researches help us, but what we are usually getting are detailed versions of the numbers involved. What we need to do and what with that, we get first-hand information about her."

Among Grace helps Kraft Foods get a clearer picture of its market, the changes in its preferences and, eventually, how to meet its needs. Small talk is, was instrumental in the introduction of various Kraft innovations.

Through that, the company came to realize how much breakfast is important for consumer during the rush hour. Hence, the launch of Kraft Eden Cheese in 2009 is also it decided to offer in pouches, sandwich spreads in sachets and powdered juice in

AMAZING GRACE: Kraft employees spend time with Kraft "boss" to know her needs, concerns, dreams and aspirations.

bite packs, keeping its products affordable to its retailers.

Engaged employees

In the weeks and in enabling Kraft Foods employees to understand and appreciate the real people they cater to. Entering Grace personality, not only their numbers, and market shares, makes employees realize that whatever they do matters so far, and this inspires them to think of ways to add value to the products and their services for her.

The concept was started by Kraft's Philippine unit about four years ago, and Mall says it is already on an "amazing journey" to other Kraft offices in other parts of Asia, even Europe.

Unlike keeping Grace happy, Kraft's French Philippine colleagues are employees are engaged and satisfied.

"Disengaged and unhappy employees can be damage to the company and harm our relationship with the customers," Mall says.

First, it says the best possible people to make up its team. It recruits top graduates of major universities, and waits them under its Future program, which has also been dubbed to collect Kraft officers overseas. Under this training program, new hires get to work in different departments of the company for 18 months. This allows the new employees to determine what jobs fit them and make an impact in the company to decide where to assign them.

Kraft Foods has put in place a holistic system of taking care of its around 400 in the Philippines.

It adds many all dimensions of its employees' lives—mental, physical, spiritual, personal and social, as well as environmental.

Formula

"We want to see everyone to really want to come to work and feel constantly challenged," Mall says.

The company follows what it calls the 70-20-10 formula for the master development of its people.

"We believe 70 percent of a person's development comes from his job. Thus, we make sure he does interesting work, and he gets beyond his comfort zone by allowing him to play different roles in the company. This also gives him a very clear career path."

The 20 percent, he says, comes from coaching-mentoring, and the company is investing heavily in internal coaching and coaching programs. The remaining 10 percent comes from classroom training programs, which cover skills assessment, and training is focused on areas that need improvement.

For the physical dimension, Kraft provides its employees in environments that is inspiring, comfortable, colorful and "different," he says.

Employees do not have to leave the office to have some time" since "We have a zen garden, gym, basketball court, dance studio, tennis and spa. "We don't care how much time they spend in these areas, it is up to them. But they have to these results. Improvements are very clear."

Work-life balance is a culture in Kraft. Family activities—Christmas, learning sessions, kids' work shops and others—are held particularly during school breaks and holidays as employees get family bonding time outside their homes. These also help make the employees' families understand and appreciate their work.

The social and environmental dimensions are addressed by the many corporate social responsibility programs being undertaken by the company. These include projects in line with Kraft's global advocacy of fighting hunger and malnutrition, and the "Go Grains" programs.

Satisfaction, ripple effects

Both the company and the employees value pride and feel quite about how Kraft Foods impacts on employees and the economy. Mall says, citing results of the company-commissioned multiplier study made by the Boston Consulting Group of Asia and the Pacific.

The study, indicating the direct and indirect contributions of the company to the economy in its ripple effect, shows that Kraft is able to contribute P2.36 in additional economic output for every peso it earns. Direct contributions, it shows, are made through employee salaries, wages and taxes paid. Indirect contributions come through its various business deals with distributors and third-party service providers. It shows that about 10,000 people—people not employed with the various supply deals with Kraft Foods.

Employee satisfaction surveys show positive results, according to Mall. Not only are they happy, members of the Kraft Foods family are also proud of what they do. And friends, the company and the numbers show their employees have been posting, he adds.

Building your 'walking billboard'

SO PEOPLE tell their business parents consuming company, top coverage on the world's newest cell center appeal, respectively, "Our employees are invisible to reveal the true BPO workers they are find. Then employee strategies to devise those who work not only good compensation, but also psychological rewards and benefits—and yet, sometimes the best "rewards" may not to be the company's own employees, as they become unboundaries of the brand.

Jaquelyn Bacoco, Aegis' HR and head of Human Resources in the Philippines, called these "walking employee billboards" at the 12th People Management Association of the Philippines Regional Conference, which gathered HR professionals and personnel managers from across the country. The carousel the importance of employees branding in attracting talent, citing as an example the 2012 SCT-SCT 50 value proposition that has helped Aegis engage and retain its employees.

Said Bacoco: "For potential employees, the main objective is to persuade more and better employees to apply and join your company. While current employees, the goal is to increase employee satisfaction, reduce turnover, promote a sense of belonging, and align their behaviors to the organization's goals and strategies. The organization, on the other hand, has to deliver what it promises, and the message must be consistent across both groups. Otherwise, we may be jeopardizing an invaluable asset that says corporate communications has to one exercise."

She discussed some of Aegis' best practices in culture and people and employ ways through its philosophy. "When you GET to Aegis, we will SET you up for success, and you will GO places. That is the basic principle of GET-SET-GO." This philosophy is in play from the moment someone gets hired and onboarded, training, until he/she gains with the company and becomes a fully-fledged global professional.

Aegis celebrates talent by bringing on board capable and passionate individuals who have an entrepreneurial bent and a desire to pursue in a global scale," Bacoco said. "We believe these drives what we are not—we provide our agents avenues that will spark engagement and activity, through Aegis' world-class training, job excellence, and career development programs."

Acknowledgment is one to achieve in Aegis, Bacoco said. She stressed with the huge operations spread across the globe, and with "individualized opportunities" and "international" opportunities, an excellent performance management system, and a full value of communication programs for employees, "the world is your oyster," she said.

Aegis recognizes that its more than 14,000 employees in the Philippines and 53,000 workers worldwide are brand ambassadors who can influence talent to join the organization's ranks, according to Bacoco. Aegis is a global business services and operations management company with operations in 56 locations in 17 countries. In the Philippines, it operates in six locations in Metro Manila, Cebu City and Bacolod City. It continues to expand globally and domestically and is looking to grow into a $2-billion company by 2015.

How patents slow down the pace of technological innovation

THE RECENT guilty verdict against the Korean electronics giant Samsung for infringement of patents held by archrival Apple has reignited a long-standing debate on the role of patents in promoting technological innovation.

The traditional view is that patents encourage creative and innovative work by giving inventors exclusive, i.e., monopoly rights, to their inventions for specified periods of time.

An alternative assumption is that view is that the patent system is an important factor in promoting technological development.

A common perspective holds that the incentives provided by patent rights have been greatly exaggerated, and that the social costs associated with them have been largely ignored.

More significantly, the emergence new materials that permits builds under their bonnet the pace of technological innovation.

Anti-patents scientist

Let us examine closely the role and usefulness of patents in the context of the current legal tussle between Apple and Samsung.

There is no question whatsoever that Apple—with market cap of $624 billion and counting—dominates both the smartphone and tablet markets.

There is also little doubt that the formidable Samsung allegedly copied, notably the "bounce back" and zoom features, on Apple's original inventions.

And yet, Apple holds the patents to these innovations.

And yet, Samsung is most likely guilty of patent infringement.

The question I pose is this: How patents from an inventions (such as Apple's or its competitors, Samsung or Nokia's) market leadership in their respective industries?

The decision lawyer, judge, lawyers of many of us is "Yes" but an increasing number of decisions like yourself are more prone to answer "No."

Here's why.

The reason that Apple has been leading the way in consumer electronics and communication technology is NOT due to holds patents to all the many products launched by its co-founder and erstwhile CEO, the late Steve Jobs.

MAPping the Future

Nicolás X. Fabián

In a number case in its field mainly because of its unique organizational culture in which every employee, not only those who are technical, marketing and administrative personnel—is single-mindedly focused on getting new job done right and on time.

Of course, Apple implemented other strategies as well to outwit it competitors, such as conducting secrecy, of which Apple is notorious, as well brand name, getting to market ahead of everybody else.

Moreover, for Apple and many other companies, innovative product features and production processes are uniquely customized and specific to the firm's products line and upon patents and as well little to do to everybody else.

There is little need, therefore, in having these patented.

Contrary to a commonly-held belief, the patents system has been a major factor in slowing down the pace of technological innovation and industrial development.

Take for example the latest-fashion certain engine, which is hailed to be the reason that propelled the Industrial Revolution.

Truth of the matter is that this invention was initially prevented the Industrial Revolution from progressing at an even faster rate.

James Watt, who had many friends in the textile, managed to have the patent he owned extended by an invention in wrecked many years, until the over 35 years—was the only readily available source of power to run factories in both the old and the new worlds.

It has become what is now known as the dominant design despite the existence of several more efficient, less cumbersome, less costly, and even better fuel-efficient engine designs which were all locked in but and unable to compete with the heavily patronized and legally protected Watt-Boulton steam engine.

Other relatively inferior products that have become dominant designs due to the patent system are the internal combustion engine, which over industrial engineers consider to be less efficient and less reliable than the externally supplied external combustion engine, and the Windows Operating System, which many consider to be inferior in many respects to Linux.

Other products that prevailed over their technically superior counterparts but for other reasons are the VHS over Betamax system and the QWERTY keyboard.

In my mind, the only purpose that patents serve Apple and thousands of other patent holders is to effectively prevent their competitors from actively participating in the competitive quest for better and more intelligent features and services.

The technological edge that customers value are left with fewer products and services to choose from.

Hindering collaboration

By limiting access to individual skills, patents effectively create "information islands" that is needed in order to achieve their full potential value. In the fast-paced, knowledge-driven and highly-connected world, social ideas and inventions need to have very short shelf lives.

Capturing maximum value from these ideas requires the collective effort of a large network of players who must have free access to each others' ideas and observations. Patenting effectively precludes such collaborative effort.

In the past, there have long-realized that coming up with highly sophisticated appliances or electronic gadgets today's economy and society requires the extensive collaboration among like-minded communities of practice and interest.

Perhaps we should follow their lead in advancing their interventions, just like software, should not be patentable.

We have entered the new world of open innovation. In this information-driven world, patents have become an outdated notion.

(The author reflects the personal opinions of the writer and does not reflect the official stand of the Management Association of the Philippines. The author is a former Professor of Management in UP Diliman. Feedback at nicolas@fabian.com.ph. For previous articles, please visit www.map.ph)

Banks' real estate exposure up 19%

By Michelle V. Rosca

REAL estate loans extended by banks in the first semester grew by 19 percent bringing the total to a new high.

The growth in real estate loans was driven by the strong market demand for both commercial and residential properties, official data showed.

Based on a report of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, the real estate loans outstanding for commercial and thrift banks reached P526.66 billion as of the end of the first semester, up from P468.87 billion in the same period last year.

The report likewise showed a 22 percent rise in banks' investments in securities sold by real estate firms to P15.19 billion from P12.42 billion a year ago.

These brought the total exposure of banks to the real estate sector—that is, the total outstanding loans and investments in real estate securities—to a record high of P561.84 billion, up by 19 percent from P472.29 billion.

The robust growth in real estate loans was a result of the better than expected performance of the economy during the period. A favorable economic performance serves to bring incomes which, in turn, picks up demand for real properties, according to industry players.

In the first half, the economy posted a year-on-year growth of 6.1 percent, registering one of the fastest in Asia during the period.

Data showed that of the total real estate loans, P383.03 billion represented home-mortgage secured in the purchase of residential properties. The balance of P244.41 billion covered loans for residential property.

Demand for residential properties is mainly driven by the strong growth in remittances from Filipinos overseas.

The growth of the property sector came the last three years has alerted sources that the Philippines may be headed toward another asset price bubble, similar to what happened in the late 1990s, as the sector has soared nobody steps on the brakes.

BSP officials said earlier that as of the moment, there was no substantial evidence showing that an asset price bubble was forming. They, however, added that the central bank had been tightly monitoring the banks' real estate lending.

Calata bullish on agriculture sector growth prospects

PROSPECTS remain bright for the local agricultural sector, particularly in the poultry and livestock subsectors, publicly listed company and leading farm products distributor Calata Corp. said over the week-end.

Calata Corp. chair and CEO Joseph Calata said the performance of the agricultural sector as of the first semester of 2012 "points to the direction of slower growth" and indicated it would have a better finish this year compared to 2011.

According to Calata, while the crop subsector registered a minimal 1.5 percent growth in the first six months of 2012, the poultry subsector grew by 5.5 percent while the livestock subsector contributed 15.11 percent to the growth of the entire agricultural industry.

"While the growth momentum may have slightly decelerated in the second semester due to adverse weather conditions, the sector is still expected to register positive growth," Calata explained.

He said the figures were based on reports of the Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Agricultural Statistics.

"These favorable developments support our revenue targets for this year," Calata said. The firm has posted P1.12 billion in gross revenues in the first half of the year, up 40 percent from year-ago level, given the sustained growth performance of the poultry and livestock subsectors.

The firm will owe to the firm's continuing expansion program.

Calata Corp. is a multidisciplined conglomerate which distributes agrochemicals, fertilizers, veterinary products, seeds and feeds from leading manufacturers in the country and abroad. Through its shade feeds and feeds sector leaders San Miguel Corporation, Jollibee, Swiftfoods and Monterey, it has 115 outlets.

Last week, it announced that the company was set to expand its manufacture in Lucena based mot and corn farmers in order to help in its bid to help increase their productivity and protect the environment.

MWSS to bid out

this month 11 flood management projects. The center a month after barrier rules on the target.

The projects of Lawa including flood. 88 percent of Metro Manila, falling at least 99 people and leaving about half a million people to fire this month.

The flood could the amount would be used to build and strengthen dikes, dredge rivers, and lay pumps to lessen a flood like those Ondoy.

The August floods were the worst in the capital since September 2009, when eliminated flooding (now inspired storm) "Ondoy" killed more than 400 people.

In July, Alfaro presented the Angat remediation works and other projects worth P1.8 billion to the Japan-government-based Water Week.

Foremost among the projects is the identification of another water source to supplement the increasing demand for the 40,000 customers. Currently under review by the World Bank are several prospective dam sites with potential supply of 1,000 to 1,500 million liters per day (MLD) of water.

Labeled the Centennial Dam, the project is expected to supplement the supply from Angat Dam.

Also in the agenda is MWSS' $14.3-million project headed by Manila Water and Maynilad that will divert the Ipanog River in Quezon to Tayabas Bay through a tunnel to augment the water supply in August Dam.

The agency will also rehabilitate the Angat Umiray transbasin tunnel to maximize the inflow of water from Umiray River.

Another MWSS project is the P128-million Angat Potrero Unification and Aqueduct 1A provisional project that was recently completed. The completion of this project paves the way for the long-needed repair and rehabilitation of Aqueducts 1 to 3. With an estimated project cost of more than P300 million, the bidding for this phase of said works is slated for early 2013.

To enable the MWSS to generate additional revenue, the agency also said the appointment of Angat Dam's ancillary subsidiary, which has a total generating capacity of 24 megawatts, will also be offered in a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement.

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Ateneo Family Business Management 2012

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By Tony Bautista | November 14, 2012
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By Marlo Villanueva | November 14, 2012
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BUSINESS

DOTC hit for easing emission standards

Group urges gov't agency to repeal order

By Dainell Lucas and Paolo G. Montecillo

KOKUS

A NEW Department of Transportation and Communications regulation that relaxes emission test standards for private vehicles is a threat to the environment and must be repealed, a group of private emission testing operators said over the weekend.

In a statement, the group Sol Kalikasan said the order was issued by then Transportation Secretary Manuel Roxas II, before he transferred from the DOTC to the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

The new order specifically excluded carless climate from the list of emissions to be monitored before vehicle registrations are renewed.

The group said new regulations on motor vehicle Private Emission Testing Centers (PETCs) that do business with the Land Transportation Office (LTO) could lead to the further deterioration of air quality in Metro Manila's already dirty air.

According to Sol Kalikasan president Mercurio Evangelista Jr., the DOTC's Department Order 2012-19 revised the rules and regulations on the authorization and monitoring of motor vehicle Private Emission Testing Centers (PETCs) and effectively allowed the "unabated proliferation of carbon dioxide into the air" by motor vehicles.

"In 2005, DOTC required the testing of four gases, namely hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and oxygen. Today, the new DOTC order has gone back to three gases, removing carbon dioxide, instead of going up to six to include nitrogen oxide and sulfur oxide to accompany more international standards," Evangelista explained.

"Carbon dioxide gas is unregulated worldwide as the number one air pollutant."

But Ara Kalikasan chief said that Roxas "may not have been briefed accurately by his subordinates" because the new order "failed to consider the current issues" involving climate change, where carbon dioxide gas has been recognized as since three

Specifically, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework to Climate Change—to which the Philippines is a signatory—and the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development underscore carbon dioxide from motor vehicles as one of the main concerns in global warming and climate change.

The group said that the DOTC order also encourages the "non-appearance" of motor vehicles at the testing centers.

"By allowing batch upload of data instead of the current real-time upload, unscrupulous PETC operators can edit the test results by simply using photoshop or other editing software," Evangelista warned.

In contrast with "real-time" data uploading where the transmission of the test results to the LTO's computer systems is done immediately, the new "batch upload" allows for the storage of data for up to 24 hours before it is transmitted to the LTO.

"We appeal to Secretary Roxas and incoming Secretary Joseph Emilio Abaya to recall and withdraw or, in the very least, hold in abeyance the implementation of Department Order No. 2012-19 pending the conduct of further reviews, public hearings and technical studies by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and private sector stakeholders," Evangelista said.

In Pangasinan, Indon firm eyeing green power plant

By Yolanda Sotelo
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAUL, Pangasinan—An Indonesian company is eyeing this agricultural town to be the site of a power plant that will utilize agricultural wastes as fuel.

Robinsons Energy Philippines, the local affiliate of Robinsons Energy Indonesia, chose this town for an P18-billion biomass power plant project because of the availability of rice hull and straw, considered farm wastes here, Mayor Marcelo Navarro said.

Agricultural wastes generated in the town will be collected to serve as feedstock or fuel for the plant that will produce green energy, Navarro explained.

The plant produces 17,500 tons of agricultural wastes annually, which is 500 tons more than what the plant needs to produce 1 megawatt of power.

The town needs 3.5 megawatts, but the company plans to eventually expand the plant's generating capacity to 5 megawatts.

With the expansion comes the need for more fuel, so the municipality will buy agricultural waste of neighboring towns, Navarro said.

The local government of Baul is also set to implement its sweet sorghum planting project that will cover around 1,000 hectares of land.

A hectare can produce 30 tons of sweet sorghum and the bagasse (stalks) will be used as biofuel to run the power plant, Navarro said.

The sweet sorghum juice may be turned into syrup. If fermented, it can be converted to ethanol that may be added to diesel fuel.

"An agronomic study was conducted in the town last year, which showed that sweet sorghum farming is feasible here. Once the plant is operational, farmers will be encouraged to plant it," Navarro said.

During a recent public consultation, representatives of various sectors in the town expressed their apprehension over the plant's impact on the environment and resources, like water.

But members of the technical group assured them that since the plant would use a no-chimney-type cooler, water consumption would be minimal, Navarro said.

"Since it will be using pure rice straw burning method, the byproduct will be recovered and used as fertilizer," he said.

The power plant will mean reduced electricity bill for residents, Navarro added.

"Since the power will be directly passed on to the Pangasinan Electric Cooperative I (Pangelco I), there will be less transmission costs and the savings will be passed on to the consumers. Also, it is expected that the plant will be subsidized by the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines," Navarro said.

Robinsons is the second green energy company that has expressed interest in establishing a biomass plant in Baul.

Last year, Global Tech Engineering, which is based in Spain, proposed to put up an 8.5-MW plant, but the project was shelved due to the economic slowdown in Europe.

The National Economic and Development Authority has issued a resolution declaring the biomass power plant in Baul as a priority project, Navarro said.

BUSINESS

Subsidies to state firms fell by 36% in August

In first 8 months, funding declined by 15% to P14.8B

By Reuwel W. Daroy

THE GOVERNMENT gave out P1.4 billion in subsidies to state-owned and -controlled corporations in August, a big part of which was allocated to those engaged in housing, irrigation, crops and health.

Data from the Bureau of Treasury (BTr) showed that the amount was 36 percent lower than the P2.1 billion given out in the same month of 2011.

As a result, cumulative subsidies to state firms for the first eight months of the year totaled P14.8 billion—14.9 percent less than the P17.4 billion given out in the same period last year.

From January to August, the amount of subsidies declined even as the government's total spending went up by 14.5 percent during the eight-month period.

According to Budget Secretary Florencio B. Abad, expenses for August alone went up by 10.4 percent as Malacañang continued to pour funds into infrastructure, apart from other capital outlays and other operating expenditures.

Abad said the expenditures would speed up with a total of key infrastructure projects which, he said, "would boost the country's viability as 'the new investment and tourism hub in the region.'"

The budget chief added that the deployment of economic management teams to key departments led to improved disbursements.

In the first eight months, the top recipient of subsidies, in terms of cumulative receipt, was the National Food Authority with P4 billion.

Others were the National Housing Authority with P2.4 billion, Philippine Health Insurance Corp. with P2.1 billion, National Electrification Administration with P1.6 billion, and National Irrigation Administration P1.3 billion.

In August alone, the National Housing Authority was also the top recipient, getting P600 million, or close to half the total subsidies disbursed during the month.

Thai firm mulls over wind power in Mindoro

By Nico T. Chicharito

ELECTRICITY Generating Public Co. Ltd. (Egco) of Thailand is conducting due diligence for a possible investment in a wind power project in Oriental Mindoro as part of expansion efforts in the Philippines.

"We're doing some due diligence right now. We're hoping that we can make something happen very quickly," said Pornthep Thiti, managing director of Quezon Power (Philippines) Limited Co., a unit of Egco.

Thiti, however, declined to reveal how much Egco would put into the project, citing confidentiality agreements.

"But we're excited that the opportunity, we're hoping to make it happen," Thiti said.

The 40-megawatt wind power project being developed by Philippine Hybrid Energy System Inc. is estimated to cost a total of P6 billion. It involves a three-phase development plan and is expected to be the largest so far in the country.

While seeking new projects and possible acquisitions, Egco also wants to partner with Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) for Quezon Power's plant expansion, Thiti said.

Egco wants Meralco as an offtaker and partner for the 500-megawatt (MW) second phase of its coal-fired power plant in Mauban, Quezon, Thiti said.

Quezon Power's existing facility comprises a 460 MW coal-fired electric generating facility and a 33-kilometer transmission line.

Construction of Quezon Power's second

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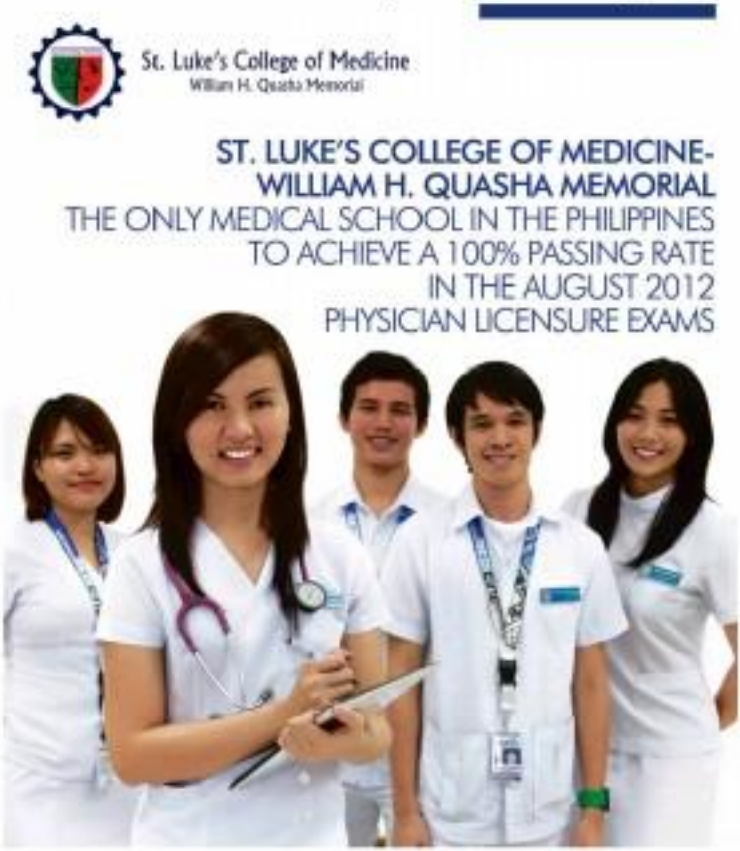

BSP to probe 'shadow banking' allegations

Unregulated services seen to threaten economy

By Michelle U. Remo

TETANGCO

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas intends to dig into the "shadow banking" activities of certain establishments and come up with measures to prevent those engaged in those operations from disrupting the financial stability of the country.

Shadow banking activities include lending by unregulated individuals, entities charging higher-than-market interest rates, sale of dubious securities and other investment products, as well as in-house financing by real estate developers.

BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said the central bank would undertake a study of shadow banking in the country. The BSP intends to determine its nature, its impact on consumers, and what regulatory mechanisms to adopt.

"Many more reforms [to be initiated by the BSP] lie ahead. [One is] obtaining the components of shadow banking so that the unregulated activities are brought to the surface," Tetangco said in a speech last week before capital market players.

In an e-mail, Tetangco said the sale of unregulated structured products was prevalent prior to the collapse of Lehmann Brothers in 2008, which triggered a global financial crisis.

"We are looking into transactions such as these some may better identify the potential sources of systemic risk, and thereby determine the appropriate regulatory framework that can ensure the investment where regulated financial institutions can service the needs of the public within the risks banks can absorb," Tetangco said.

Earlier this year, the BSP released a study that showed 6 out of 10 Filipinos did not have bank accounts, reflecting difficulty in accessing formal banking services. Also, most individuals tend to tap "shadow banking services," such as credit from loan sharks.

The BSP believes that, because people in remote areas of the country do not have access to banks and formal financial institutions, they are forced to deal with unregulated individuals or entities.

According to the BSP, shadow banking threatens the financial stability of households and the economy as a whole.

Tetangco urged members of the capital market to continue to make investor protection one of the key elements of their services. He said the BSP would soon require regulated entities to come up with consumer protection frameworks.

There to talk to the regulatory entity that consumer protection will be elevated to a core function and not simply an advocacy of regulated banks and non-banking institutions, he said.

UNLEASHED

From left, Chanel Dayrunan, Mira Acunda and Ravi Dayrunan of Canadian Manufacturing mark the launch of their company's new bed linen collection during a glitzy and glamorous affair held at the Bonifacio Global City in Taguig City.

Asean set to spur investments for region's small businesses

By Ace S. Ruiz

THE ASSOCIATION of Southeast Asian Nations has approved a development project that will encourage investments in small and medium enterprises throughout the region.

The Asean-backed project, which was launched last week, involves the development of 10 case studies in three priority SME sectors: agro-processing, electronics and information and communications technology.

The components of the project noted that while SMEs undoubtedly make up a large part of the world's economy, far fewer small businesses are mobile.

"SMEs account for 70 to 80 percent of the GDP of countries in Asean," said Philip Jones, who leads the project management team.

In particular, the case studies aim to thereby see ways to help and create incentives for SMEs, promote innovations that improve the effectiveness of SME's, support economic integration within the region, align regional development initiatives and promote entrepreneurship.

Jones said that SMEs involved in agro-processing in Thailand, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, Brunei, Myanmar and Japan will be studied.

For the ICT sector, SMEs in Singapore, Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and Japan will be examined.

Meanwhile, SMEs that will be surveyed in the electronics sector will come from Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and Japan.

The drafts of the case studies are expected to be finished by December and the final output by March next year, Jones said.

The project, financed by the Japan-Asean Integration Fund, tapped 13 research writers from the Asean region.

Some of the SMEs eyed for the case studies include a producer of seafood crackers in Brunei, a producer of dried seafood in Indonesia, a silk weaver in Cambodia and an electronic goods trader in Vietnam.

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SEAOIL

Aussie airline set to start charter flights to Cebu

By Cris Evert B. Lim
Inquirer Visayas

CEBU CITY—The province's tourism trade will get a shot in the arm once Wild Orchid Airlines is able to begin direct charter flights on Dec. 15.

The airline will operate the Darwin-Cebu route. Darwin's proximity to Asia is the primary reason behind the charter flights, Wild Orchid's director for global operations David Fleming told the Inquirer.

Darwin, the state capital of Australia's Northern Territory, is 3 and a half hours from Cebu, which is considered one of the Philippines' popular tourist destinations.

Fleming explained that Wild Orchid Airlines would offer direct charter flights between peak demand.

The charter flights will operate for 28 Saturdays starting Dec. 15. The weekly service is scheduled to run until Dec. 28, 2013.

"Darwin's proximity to Asia gives us great opportunities. The reality is that our population base cannot sustain additional permanent regular weekly air services to new Asian destinations such as Cebu."

"Wild Orchid Airlines believes that a cooperative approach will be the new sustainable option for Territorians looking for a new, affordable, safe and exciting holiday destination for couples, families and groups," the airline said.

The airline noted that since charter flights do not operate like a traditional airline, it allows more scope and flexibility in its pursuit to travel planning.

Department of Tourism Central Visayas (DOT 7) regional director Rowena La Michelle said they were reaching out to cruise liners and tourism establishments to prepare for the Australian markets.

"For now, we are doing more research to pin down what it is that they really want. Based on our initial research, we know that Australians are golf enthusiasts and they love beaches. And we have a lot of that in Cebu and in the whole Central Visayas," Hamerlla said in a phone interview.

She said Cebu might initially welcome families and tour groups, but DOT was looking forward to attract business groups and trade meetings, incentives, conventions and exhibitions (MICE) market in the future.

Montevilla said the continuity of charter flights after 2013 would depend on the success of the one-year service.

She said the charter flights would also provide an opportunity for Filipinos who live near Darwin to visit the Philippines during the holidays.

Montevilla said Australia was a growing tourist market.

DOT 7 data showed that 2,732 Australians visited Central Visayas in the first six months of 2012, a 66-percent increase from the 1,644 tourists who visited the region during the same period in 2011.

To service the Darwin-Cebu route, the airline has hired a Boeing 737 and crew from Qantas, Australia's flag carrier. It offers full service economy and business class accommodation.

The direct charter flights will depart from Darwin at 1 p.m. every Saturday. It will leave Cebu at 4:55 p.m.

The airline also boasts of a current flight with generous baggage allowance of 40 kilograms for economy guests and 30 kilograms for business class.

Turn page/B6-1

MERALCO REINFORCES OPERATIONS OF MULTIPLAST CORPORATION

The Manila Electric Company (Meralco) signed a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with Multiplast Corporation, which manufactures the plastic pouches used as containers in Meralco's Tingog sa Kuryente (TSK) program. With the TSK program, Multiplast can cut down electricity expenses as it shifts its operations to the lower rate off-peak hours. By undergoing the program, Multiplast has already obtained a 3.9% and 4.5% reduction from its past two electricity bills. The fast bill drops is chief factor of their operations to the off-peak hours in order to maximize the benefits offered by the program. Meralco plant is an ISO 9001:2008 certified manufacturing company that boosts the production of disposable plastic cups, trays and other plastic items that are supplied to fastfood chains and other food service establishments. Signing the MOA were Meralco Assistant Vice President and FVP for Sales Relationship Management Head Ma. Cecilia M. Domingo and Multiplast Corporation President Antonio S. Chua (second and third from left). Also in photo are Meralco Corporate Relationship Manager Ruben S. Mercado and Multiplast Corporation Plant Manager Alvin D. de la Cruz (first and fourth from left).

Thai firm mulls

unit may take about three years. Financing will come mostly from onshore local banks that the power firm is also looking abroad for complementary and competitive deals, Thai said.

The energy release of feed-in tariffs (FIT) law sparked greater interest in renewable energy, said Jesse Carung Jr., Department of Energy undersecretary.

BDO Capital & Investment Corp., the investment arm of BDO Unibank Inc., is among those that have shown interest in renewable energy projects. The release of FIT rates makes BDO Capital "more comfortable" with renewable energy projects although it wants to see the implementing rules to guide the company in exploring opportunities, BDO Capital president Eduardo Francisco said.

In the meantime, "We're talking to two wind developers with maybe at least 300 MW combined. In addition to EDC (Energy Development Corp.) there are two other companies," Francisco said.

The FIT scheme, required under the Renewable Energy Act of 2008, guarantees income for renewable energy firms through fixed rates to be shouldered by consumers.

Approved FIT rates, which are lower than those proposed in 2011, are at P5.90 per kilowatt-hour (kwh) for biomass, P8.53 per kwh for wind, and P9.68 per kwh for solar.

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BUSINESS

Investment funds prepare for Obama victory

NEW YORK—As President Barack Obama widened his lead over Mitt Romney in polls this month, traders at hedge funds and investment firms began thrusting a cudgel to clients with a similar theme: It's time to start preparing for an Obama victory.

What many in the market worry about isn't their high current tax payments in times if Obama wins. It's gridlock in Washington some January, when more than $600 billion in spending cuts and tax hikes could kick in just as the country smacks into its borrowing limit again.

In a second term, Obama would likely be joined against a Republican-controlled House of Representatives. Investors say that's likely to set up a budget battle similar in magnitude of last year, which ended with the country losing its top credit rating and panicked customers fleeing the stock market.

"If you have any kind of gridlock, you run the risk of inaction," says Tom Simons, a market economist at the investment bank Jefferies. "This is a situation where inaction is the worst outcome."

The next fight could get just as messy, but more on Wall Street think Congress and Obama would eventually manage to postpone some of the $600 billion-plus "fiscal cliff" and avoid tipping the economy into a recession.

The Congressional Budget Office recently laid out the grim consequences of dropping off the fiscal cliff. The economy would shrink at an annual rate of nearly 3 percent in the first half of next year and push unemployment up to 9.1 percent by the fall. Recent surveys of businesses suggest the threat is already weighing on the minds of executives who they're making hiring and spending plans.

For the world's biggest money managers, the fiscal cliff's new risks as the greatest hazard to the global economy, according to Bank of America's most recent fund manager survey. It topped the European debt crisis, a collapse in Chinese real estate and even a war between Israel and Iran.

The danger looms so large to most investors that they believe Washington will find a way to escape it.

"Ultimately, I think a deal gets done, but it's just a question of how long it takes to get there," says Jeff Kleintop, chief market strategist at LPL Financial. "Right now it is going to be an easy process. Gridlock means there's a greater chance that this drags on into next year."

Analysts at investment firms have kept a close eye on polling numbers and especially on the prediction market Intrade. Its most recent odds favor voters leaning toward Obama. On Intrade, the odds have swung strongly in Obama's direction, jumping to a 76 percent chance of re-election, up from 51 percent at the start of September. AP

Investors bet on growth of big economies

LONDON—Developed economies still offer better business growth prospects than most emerging markets, not least because of their more attractive financing environments, according to a study released on Friday.

Grant Thornton International (GTI), a global accounting and advisory firm, ranked the Nordic region as the most dynamic in the world, scoring 68.1 out 100, followed by North America, the Group of Seven rich industrial nations and then Asia-Pacific.

Singapore topped the individual country rankings followed by Finland, Sweden, Israel and Austria. The United States came 10th and China 20th.

"In many ways the results are counterintuitive. You always assume that the countries that have the fastest economic growth like China and India would also have the best long-term business environments for companies to grow, but that's clearly not the case," GTI Chief Executive Ed Nusbaum told Reuters.

GTI surveyed more than 400 executives on five themes that is identified as central to the dynamism of an economy: growth, the business operating environment, skills, trust and technology, labor and human capital and the financing system.

Developing countries lagged in the last area, which specified sound regulation as the most important aspect of an economy's financing environment, followed by credit availability, the corporate tax rate and growth in direct investment.

Even if their labor costs are lower and their legal processes are simpler, emerging markets could lose out in the years ahead if they continue to be second best in providing financing, Nusbaum said. Reuters

Japan economy stutters ahead of China crisis

TOKYO—Japan released yet more worrying figures Friday showing the world's third largest economy was already teetering before a damaging territorial dispute erupted with its largest trading partner.

Factory output in August shrank by a bigger-than-expected 1.3 percent from the previous month, the industry ministry said in a sideline production activity was weakening.

The decline was much sharper than an average market forecast of a 0.6 percent drop.

"Industrial production appears to be weakened," the ministry said in a statement, downgrading its overall assessment. It had said a month ago that production appeared to be flat.

Japan's export-driven economy is struggling to right itself following the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami disaster, while also suffering from Europe's debt crisis, slowing Chinese demand and the strong yen.

Japanese businesses are now worried about taking a hit from the effects of a flare-up in the row between Tokyo and Beijing over the ownership of islands in the East China Sea.

Japan's nationalisation in September of three islands in the chain, called Senkaku in Japan and Diaoyu in China, triggered anti-Japan rallies across China. Major Japanese companies were forced to close factories.

Auto giants Toyota and Nissan said Wednesday they would cut production in China because demand for Japanese cars has dropped, while airlines have seen large cancellations of seats on China-bound flights.

Hiromi Chinese consumer boycotts of Japanese products are also unsettling firms sending goods to China, Japan's number one export market.

Mizuho Securities Research and Consulting senior economist Seiki Miyagawa said the country's outlook anyway suggested "output may lose steam even further."

"If the current disputes with China become prolonged, that will damage Japan's output and the economy." AFP

On behalf of the government and people of the Republic of the Philippines, I extend my warmest felicitations and best wishes to your Excellency and to the Chinese people on the occasion on the 63rd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

The whole world has witnessed China's remarkable accomplishments throughout history. These achievements have made China the second largest economy in the world and an influential member of the international community. I am confident that, as a responsible member of the community of nations, China will continue to play an important role in the economic development and the maintenance of peace and stability of our region and the world.

I am also pleased to note that considerable progress has been made in the bilateral relations between our two countries over the past 37 years. During State Visit to China last year, the Philippines and China committed to expanding and strengthening partnership for the mutual benefit of our peoples, and I look forward to reaching the ambitious yet achievable goals we have set for our two countries.

BENIGNO S. AQUINO III (Sgd)
President
Republic of the Philippines

I extend my warmest felicitations to your Excellency on the occasion of the 63rd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

The extraordinary economic growth that China has sustained over the past few decades is indeed an inspiration to many countries in search hard in order to address the fundamental challenges faced by developing countries.

As close neighbors and partners, the Philippines and China have undertaken many cooperative activities in a wide range of fields—political, economic, sociocultural, tourism, agriculture, defense and security, people-to-people exchanges—for 37 years. These activities have served to strengthen our traditional historical ties that go back hundreds if not thousand of years.

I am especially pleased that during the visit of President Benigno Aquino III to China last year, our two countries' leaders have pledged to further strengthen said ties by agreeing to work together to achieve ambitious but attainable goals over the next five years, including the doubling of total trade and two-way tourist arrivals by 2016. Furthermore our two leaders have declared to designate 2012 and 2013 as the Years of Friendly Exchanges between the Philippines and China.

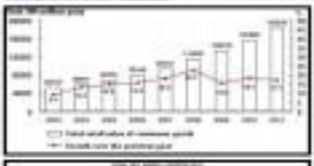
I look forward to the continued partnership of our two countries as we commemorate the years of Friendly Exchanges through the various activities including people-to-people exchanges that focus on enhancing mutual understanding between the Filipino and Chinese people.

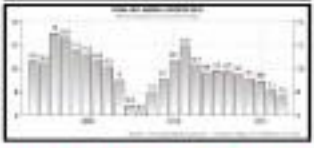
Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

ALBERTO DEL ROSARIO (Sgd)
Secretary
Department of Foreign Affairs

Premier Wen Jiabao on China's economy

FAST growth and less fluctuation were the most salient features of China's economic performance in the past decade. A shift from fast growth to sound growth was a fundamental change in the priorities of China's development in the past decade. To put people's needs first was the most visible highlight in China's development in the past decade. China executed the concept of sustainable development in the past decade. To build a resource-saving and environment-friendly society was identified as an important strategy of national development. China's reform made continuous breakthroughs in the past decade, which has been the most distinctive feature of the time. From 2002 to 2011, China's GDP grew at an average annual rate of 10.7 percent, and moved up from the sixth to the second place in the world. China's per capita GDP rose from 1,000 plus US dollars to 5,432 US dollars. China's foreign trade volume also climbed from the sixth to the second place in the world, and foreign exchange reserves exceeded three trillion US dollars. China's industrial structure was upgraded, its agricultural foundations was consolidated, and regional development became much more balanced. All-round progress was made in social programs and people's livelihood significantly improved.





The major progress China made are to the areas that concern people's livelihood, such as employment, social security, education, health, and poverty alleviation. The per capita urban disposable income and per capita rural net income increased at an average annual rate of 9.2 percent and 9.1 percent respectively in real terms, ending the past decade one of the fastest growing periods in the history of New China. Rural taxpayer gave birth to the last farmer in the past two years. Hundreds of millions of Chinese families and the towns and villages where they live and work experienced tremendous changes in these past ten years, and there were moments touching stories of Chinese people changing their lives and destinies through hard work and perseverance.

After the international financial crisis broke out, China fully implemented a package of plans, making considerable efforts to overcoming overseas difficulties and promoting long-term development. It was mainly due to China's resolute decision and effective measures that China was able to avoid hasty recession, lift losses and return of migrant workers to their home villages. These measures helped China keep the good momentum

PREMIER WEN B4

A strong commitment to world peace, security and development

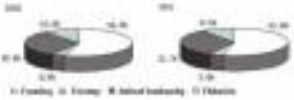
Speech by H.E. Yang Jiechi

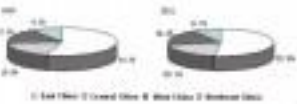
CHINA has made a strategic choice of remaining true to peaceful development. While sticking to the path of peaceful development, China will work closely with all other sides to counter the various risks and challenges and make continuous contribution to world peace and common development. To this end, we will make the following efforts.

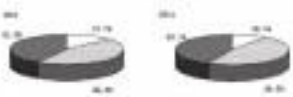
We will continue to uphold solidarity and common development and promote global economic recovery and growth. As the international financial crisis continues to spread and serious uncertainties and destabilizing factors remain in the world economy, we should deepen solidarity and cooperation and work together to consolidate progress already made in tackling the international financial crisis and promote steady recovery of the global economy. Since the beginning of this year, China has, first and foremost, run its own affairs well, followed the general principle of seeking steady progress, and maintained steady and fast economic growth. This in itself is an important contribution to the global economic growth. We have continued to support EU's efforts to address the sovereign debt crisis, announced our decision to participate in the increase of IMF resources, and expanded investment cooperation with Central and Eastern Europe. All this has given strong support to European countries in their endeavor to counter the crisis. We have actively advanced East Asia cooperation, signed rainforest investment agreement with Japan and the ROK, announced the launch of negotiations on a trilateral free trade area. All this has lent fresh impetus to economic growth in the three countries and Asia as a whole. We continue to

A STRONG COMMITMENT B4-5

Premier Wen Jiabao on China's economy







From page B4-1

tum of economic development, maintain social stability and harmony and protect China's ecological environment from major setbacks. Over the years, social wealth has increased, asset quality has improved and China's capacity to resist risks has enhanced. From 2009 to the end of 2011, China began construction of 21 million units of urban housing for low-income earners, among which 11 million units have been basically completed. The operational mileage of railways was increased by 11,500 kilometers and the mileage of highways was increased by 370,000 kilometers. Infrastructural facilities such as urban rail transport and rural power grid were significantly improved. Over 7,000 large- and medium-sized reservoirs and key small-sized reservoirs were reinforced. China extended access to potable water to many more rural residents. A large number of community facilities providing medical, health, educational and cultural services were established. A new Wenchuan was built and all-round progress was made in the economic and social development of the disaster-stricken areas. Meanwhile, China had fiscal and financial risks under control. The budget deficit and outstanding government debt in 2011 were 1.8 percent and 15.28 percent of the GDP, both lower than their 2002 levels of 2.37 percent and 16.87 percent. The ratio of non-performing loans to the banking sector were down from 15.2 percent at the end of 2002 to 1.0 percent in 2011. The scale of local government debts was on the whole under control and risks were basically under control.

Premier Wen said, "As I look back at each and every step I took in the past ten years, strong emotions well up inside me. They are reminders of a deep love and strong confidence that I have always cherished in search my beloved country an ancient civilization blossoming with youthful energy. Through ten years of hard work, we have elevated our economic and social development to a new level and laid a more solid material, technological and institutional foundation for future development."

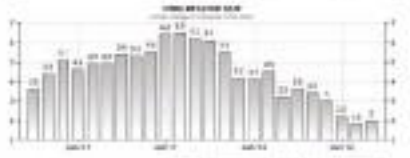
While introducing the extensive policy measures taken by China since May, Premier Wen said that macroeconomic indicators show that the speed of growth is still within the target range set at the start of the year, and although the growth is slowing down, it is being more stable. As the recent measures are being implemented and take effect, the Chinese economy is expected to find her stabilized. China will step up active proactive adjustments and fine-tuning. China will make stronger efforts to spur consumer demand, expand effective investment with a focus on releasing the potentials of non-governmental investments, stabilize external demand and bolster the real economy.

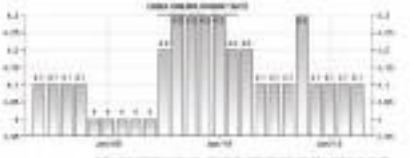
Looking into the prospects of the global economy, Premier Wen said that the international community needs to strengthen macroeconomic policy coordination, push forward reform of the global governance structure, resolutely oppose trade and investment protectionism, advance trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, and work jointly for an early steady recovery of the world economy. He expressed the hope that entrepreneurs of all countries will invest more in technological R&D and product innovation, vigorously develop green industries that are energy-efficient and environment-friendly, create new market demands and growth areas, and bring about an all-win outcome where businesses boom, industries get stronger, economy prospers and society progresses.

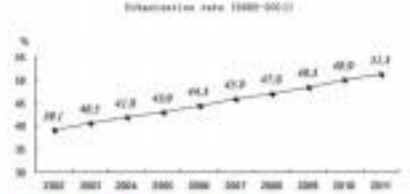
Proportion of foreign trade volumes

UNIT: %

Country / Region	2002	2010	2011
China's Hong Kong	11.1	7.8	7.8
China's Taiwan	7.2	6.0	6.0
Japan	16.9	10.0	9.4
South Korea	7.7	9.2	8.9
Canada	3.0	2.2	2.0
United States	15.0	14.0	12.5
Australia	3.4	3.0	3.2
ASEAN	8.6	9.8	10.0
EU	14.0	16.1	15.6







Remarks by H.E. Ambassador Ma Keqing at the 2012 National Day Reception

Shangri-La Hotel, 25 September 2012

I thank you all for gracing the reception and joining us to celebrate the 63th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

In the long-standing history of the Chinese nation, the past 63 years are very short, yet extraordinary. It is in this period, particularly over the past three decades, since China introduced the reform and opening-up programs, remarkable progress has been scored by huge and brutish in economic, social and cultural undertakings. China's sustained development and prosperity has offered and continue to offer an important and lasting window of opportunities to countries around the world and to its neighbors in particular. Before long, the Chinese Communist Party is about to convene the 18th National Congress. There is no doubt that China's basic state policy of peaceful development and opening to the outside world will remain unchanged. China will be all the more determined to go for peaceful development, follow the win-win strategy of opening up and implement the policy of good-neighborliness with neighboring countries.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The Philippines is our important neighbor to China. Amicable interactions between the Chinese and the Philippine people have forged affinity and kinship, which has withstood the test of history and time. Ever since the two countries established diplomatic relations 37 years ago, the China-Philippines friendly cooperation has brought forth both of us tangible benefits, which can be measured by double-digit annual growth of trade, steadily increasing two-way investments as well as cultural and people to people exchanges.

In the last few months, China-Philippines relations have encountered some difficulties. Now tensions have eased. An important meeting was held between Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping and the Philippine President and Local Government Secretary Mar Roxas, special envoy of President Aquino on the sidelines of the China-ASEAN Expo in Nanning. I wish joint efforts will be continued with the aim of overcoming current difficulties and bringing the bilateral relations back to the track of normal development. I believe this is in the interests of both sides and is conducive to the peace and stability of our region.

With this conviction, may I propose a toast:

To the prosperity of China and the Philippines, and the happiness of our two peoples

To the friendship and cooperation between our two countries and two peoples

To the health of all distinguished guests present

Cheers!

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Thinking global

Foton ties up with Daimler and maps out its expansion plans

By Alvin Uy

FOTON Motor, China's largest commercial vehicle manufacturer is setting its sights on the global consumer vehicle market and with its success set up south Daimler is poised to cash in on the boom. Foton's new line up of Auman trucks will soon be produced by its joint venture under Beijing Foton Daimler Auto (BFDA). Daimler is channeling one entire line of products with an exciting array of solutions and power conferences highlighting how we are bringing innovation to China and developing new technology in this country right here, right now," said Ehrich Walker, chair and CEO of Daimler Northeast Asia Ltd. This was announced a few months ago during the 12th Beijing International Automotive Exhibition, also known as Auto China 2012. Located at Beijing's China International Exhibition Center, it showcased 1,115 exhibitors with 120 World Premieres and had over 250,000 square meters of exhibition space. This includes 74 concept cars and 80 alternative energy vehicle exhibits.

In China becomes the world's most important automotive market, its German partner company Daimler AG, formerly known as DaimlerChrysler before it divested itself from the popular American car brand and is the world's second largest truck manufacturer in the world. Currently, Daimler owns and produces Mercedes-Benz, Smart, Freightliner and Rhinbeck car and truck brands among others. The German automaker also holds substantial stakes in Mitsubishi Fuso Truck and Bus Corporation and motorsport company RAM. It also owns the Fuhuhan McLaren Mercedes Formula One racing team.

"BFDA combines the best of both worlds: Foton brings with it the successful domestic business, which includes its development, production and sales network. Besides our financial contribution, Daimler supplies the know-how in 1,000,000 Mercedes-Benz motors, which will also be produced locally," said Stefan Albrecht, EVP of BFDA. With a distribution and service network of over 2,700 dealers and 4,400 service centers nationwide and more than 100 distributors and 400 service centers internationally in over 160 countries, Foton is China's biggest vehicle brand. Founded in August, 1996 as the Beiqi Foton Motor Co., Ltd. is later become Foton Motor and in March in 1998 as the truck exchange. By 2002, it began production of its first heavy truck under the Auman brand. Foton is now China's biggest auto and truck manufacturer & was ranked 84th in the Chinese Top 500 Most Valuable Brand with an estimated brand value of RMB 34 billion.

In expansion plans include setting up of more manufacturing hubs in Thailand, Indonesia in part of its 2020 Synergy four year plan. Auman officially began on June 25, 2011 on its newest Beijing multi-purpose vehicle plant that is mainly dedicated for the production of its MPV, pickup, SUV and CDV lines. With a total production capacity up to 200,000 vehicles per year, it is also capable of producing 400,000 gasoline diesel engines and 10,000 heavy machinery engines annually. With growing consumer direct investments coming from Foton, these engines will be Euro V compliant and new models are expected for Euro IV emissions standard.

The Beijing multi-purpose vehicle plant integrates the production lines for body stamping, coating and final assembly. It is initially dedicated for the production of its pickup, SUV, CDV and MPV vehicle line ups with a production capacity of about 200,000 vehicles per year. Sales revenue for the plant alone is estimated to be in the tune of 30 billion RMB. The Tunland (mainly known as the Tornado pick-up model), is the latest product to roll out of the plant. Known as the Tornado pickup locally, and as public debut at the 2011 Manila International Auto Show last April. The new pick up model will be available in the local market very soon.

FOTON'S MPV, TUNLAND is now a popular model locally

On the local market, Foton Philippines is already planning to set up an assembly plant in Clark,Subic. Pampanga to cater to its growing market in the country. Currently Foton Philippines has 20 dealers nationwide and plans to put up more dealerships in emerging cities soon. Said Nomard Xiao, president of Foton Philippines, where asked about their expansion plans in the next 6-months. "It is by far the largest Chinese auto brand in the local market today. Aside from individual owners, it caters to government, institutional and corporate fleet accounts for its commercial vehicles, vans and pick up trucks, including specialty vehicles like refuse and cattle feed trucks. Foton's Auman trucks are now available in the local market and comes Foton Philippines for more information about Foton's complete line of commercial vehicles and passenger vans and pick ups visit one of its dealers or check out www.foton.com.ph.

THE FOTON View van is a favorite conversion van model

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Snapshots of Chinese athletes

Chinese athletes put on explosive performances, displayed good sportsmanship and unflinching will in competition and brought glory and prestige to their motherland as the London Olympics kicked off on July 27. Among the highlights, they broke records in several categories among 36 Olympic sports. These pictures show some of the most brilliant moments from China's Olympic athletes.

TIME 16 year-old Li Na (right) and 11 year-old Zhang Shuai take part in the women's tennis doubles on July 31.

BASKETBALL player Yi Jianlian (left), 19, leads the Chinese delegation as a flag-bearer during the opening ceremony at the Olympics.

Li TIANFENG, 28, competes in the men's 50km walking race on Aug. 11. The two-time Olympian won the bronze medal.

MEMBERS of the synchronized swimming team show off their silver medals on Aug. 10.

LU YING, 22, takes a silver medal in the women's 100m butterfly with 56.87 seconds on July 29.

GYMNASTS celebrate after winning the men's artistic gymnastics team final on July 30. China won the men's team gold.

BASKETBALL center Chen Han (right), 29, competes in the quarterfinals against Australia on Aug. 7.

XU LIJIA, 24, waves the national flag after winning the women's Laser Radial class gold medal on Aug. 4.

SM LITTLE STARS 2012 YEAR 6

From L–R (above): Liu Xiqi, Fan Ziyu, Chidubere Andrew Gideon, Abah Francis Nanamo, Hu Binrui, Yuan Mina
From L–R (below): Gong Lei, Jin Guobo, Yang Chengbo and Yuan Xi

SM China Little Stars 2012 in Manila

The top 6 SM Little Stars China 2012 grand winners enjoyed a 5-day action packed trip around the city as part of the cultural exchange trip between the SM Supermalls in the Philippines and in China. They toured around different local attractions, learned more of our country, and stepped to their hearts delight!

During their stay in Manila, they were able to get to know their Philippine counterparts and bond with each other doing various fun-filled activities like ice skating, bowling, and exploring the Science Discovery Center at the SM Mall of Asia. These cute and charming little kids were also able to showcase their winning talents at SM City North Edsa and amazed the audience with their performances at the grand finals of the SM Little Stars Philippines 2012 at the SM Mall of Asia.

As their trip came to an end and as they bid their new friends farewell, they went home with a ton of stories to tell and memories to share. Truly, SM Little Stars is an experience to remember.

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A tour at Toy Kingdom where the kids enjoyed and shopped.

Mr. Hans T. Sy, President of SM Prime Holdings, Incorporated, got a chance to welcome these cute and adorable kids and give them their gifts (individual).

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H.E. Ambassador Ma Keqing in a series of public diplomacy programs

Ambassador Ma Keqing arrived in the Philippines and assumed office on 15th January 2012. Soon after she presented credentials to President Aquino on 26th January, Ambassador Ma held extensive and in-depth contacts with the political, business, military and academic circles of the Philippines. Ambassador Ma Keqing also met with the Philippine Vice President, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives and cabinet members respectively.

PRESIDENT Benigno Aquino and Ambassador Ma Keqing

AMBASSADOR Ma laid great emphasis on her interactions with local media and think tanks. She called on mainstream media such as the Philippine Star, GMA and ABS-CBN, among others, and held round-table panels with the local media on China's two important sessions in 2012 (National People's Congress Session and Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Session) and other agendas.

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AMBASSADOR Ma visited Ateneo De Manila University, Angeles University and St. Andrews College, and held friendly interactions with teachers and students from three Confucius Institutes.

AMBASSADOR Ma addressed the Management Association of the Philippines (MAP) and held a seminar on Sino-Philippine Relations with the Philippine Association of Chinese Studies (PACS).

AMBASSADOR Ma visited Iloilo Province and Davao Norte Province, met with local politicians, called on the local Chinese community and visited local schools.

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from page B4-1

cohesion; solidarity and cooperation with other developing countries. The Africa-China Conference Center and Office Complex built by China has been officially inaugurated, serving a new landmark of China-Africa friendship after the Tanzam Railway. China has witnessed cooperation with Latin American and Arab states and cemented traditional friendship with them. Going forward, the world economy will still be on a torturous and difficult course in its recovery. We will continue to enhance coordination and cooperation with other parties and promote steady economic growth worldwide. We will write such opportunities as the Fifth FOCAC Ministerial Conference to reinforce new measures, deepen practical cooperation with other parties and create for them more benefits.

We will continue to uphold mutual respect and win-win cooperation and explore with others a new model of relations between major countries featuring no confrontation, no conflict, mutual respect and win-win cooperation. The first group meeting between Chinese and Central and East European leaders has given a strong boost to the all-round development of China-EU comprehensive strategic partnership. China and Japan have reached important agreement on Japan's investment in China's three bank bond market and the launch of direct trading between their currencies. People-to-people and cultural exchanges between the two countries have deepened. As things stand, China's relations with other major countries are on a more solid footing with even broader prospects. We will continue to increase high-level exchanges and dialogue with other countries, enhance strategic mutual trust, step up practical cooperation, and make fresh headway in growing a new type of relations between major countries.

We will continue to uphold mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and coordination, and maintain regional and international peace and stability as a responsible member of the international community. China consistently maintains that disputes be settled through dialogue and negotiation and firmly upholds the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and basic norms governing international relations. China has actively promoted peace and cross-strait negotiations and played an important and constructive role in addressing hotspot issues. We have followed closely developments in West Asia and North Africa and made recommendations of ours to help ease the situation in the region. On the Syrian issue, China upholds the principle of non-interference in internal affairs and does not force or impose its positions on any side. China has put forward a six-point proposal to seek a political solution to the Syrian issue and supports the mediation efforts of the Joint UN-Arab League Special Envoy Kofi Annan. All this attests to the role of China as a responsible major country. The Foreign Ministers' Meeting of the Six-Nation Group on Syria held yesterday ago in Geneva achieved positive results. China has made dia- efforts to the end and hopes that what are agreed upon at the meeting will be implemented. We have facilitated and actively participated in the resumption of talks between P5+1 and Iran, put forward proposals conducive to the talks, and played an important role for the restart of the dialogue process on the Iranian nuclear issue. We have made vigorous efforts to maintain peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, uphold the position for a denuclearized Peninsula, and prevent escalation of tension on the Peninsula. All this shows that China is a responsible country that upholds principles when it comes to the issue of the Korean Peninsula. In today's world, international and regional security is still confronted with multiple challenges and hotspot issues including Syria, the Iranian nuclear issue, and the Korean nuclear issue are still evolving in a complex way. We will continue to work with other parties to actively facilitate peace and talks, ease tensions over some issues and promote regional peace and tranquility.

We will continue to actively participate in, give proper guidance to and promote the reform of international governance mechanisms and regional cooperation. China takes an active part in the reform of international financial governance mechanisms and the formulation of international rules, joins efforts to address global issues and promotes regional and international cooperation. It is actively involved in the international system and builds and seek fairness in the system. President Hu Jintao attended the Seoul Nuclear Security Summit and put forward a four-point proposal for enhancing nuclear security playing an important role in addressing international nuclear security cooperation. The accomplishment of China's initiative of the Fourth BRICS Leaders' Meeting on stepping up fiscal and financial cooperation became another highlight to the cooperation among BRICS countries. President Hu Jintao made a proposal at the G20 Summit in Los Cabos covering five areas such as promoting steady recovery of the world economy, making important contributions to the success of the summit. China successfully hosted the Summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, during which a development strategy plan for SCO's next ten years was adopted. At the regional Afghanistan meeting hosted in the SCO as an observer state and Turkey as a dialogue partner. Further contributing to regional stability and development, China takes an active part in the international cooperation on anti-drug. A development fund of an amount 200 million RMB yuan for international cooperation against drug in the next years to help small island countries, least developed countries and African countries tackle climate change. Looking ahead, we will face daunting challenges to global governance. We are ready to work with various parties to continue to act in a cooperative spirit and deepen reforms of the international system so as to make the international political and economic order more just and equitable.

We will continue to uphold the principle of equality and peaceful coexistence and work vigorously to foster a regional environment featuring peace, stability, equality, mutual trust and win-win cooperation. At present, the Asia-Pacific region is generally stable and the momentum of economic growth remains strong. This has not come easily and needs to be cherished by countries in the region. China pursues a policy of developing good neighborly and friendly relations with its neighbors. It consistently sees other Asian countries as good neighbors, good friends and good partners and it is committed to promoting long-term peace and common prosperity in Asia. Since the beginning of the year, we have exchanged visits with with other Asian countries and conducted frequent exchanges with them at various levels. In the first half of this year alone, there were over 30 high-level mutual visits and meetings between China and other Asian countries. We have worked vigorously to promote regional economic development. China's contribution rate to economic growth in Asia has been over 50 percent, and China has been the biggest export market for most Asian countries for many consecutive years, including Japan and the ROK, thus playing a positive role in fueling the vibrant growth of the regional economy. We actively signed exchanges with other non-Asian countries, extensively participate in regional security dialogue mechanisms such as the ASEAN Regional Forum and facilitate efforts to build military mutual trust and consultation mechanisms with our neighboring countries. We properly handle disputes concerning territorial and maritime rights and interests with neighboring countries, consistently commit to resolve the disputes through bilateral dialogue and uphold the legal interests of state sovereignty and regional stability. Going forward, we will make good use of the opportunities of APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting and the ASEAN Summit and Related Summits to further strengthen exchanges and dialogue with other Asia-Pacific economies, actively advance cooperation in various fields and jointly uphold a peaceful and stable Asia-Pacific as we see it today.

History is like a long river. It's lucky enough to live in an era when peace, development and cooperation prevail. In this era, individual countries with their interests entwined have to lead off rides and jostle on with each other. Only by rejecting the old paradigm of rivalry for hegemony, opposition by the use of force and confrontation between different blocs, can we break new ground for a world in which countries live in peace, treat each other as equals and work together for win-win results. To achieve this noble goal, China will remain faithful to the path of peaceful development, unswervingly pursue foreign policies committed to peaceful development, and work with other countries hand in hand to make greater contributions to a world of enduring peace and development.

JOINT EFFORT Leaders pose at the 2012 Seoul Nuclear Security Summit.

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ABOVE from Bon, Manoja Bladito will also be saying farewell to Giselle and Carmen this month.

LISA MACUJA-ELIZALDE'S 'SWAN SONG' SERIES

Country's biggest orchestra pit unveiled at 'Don Quixote' gala

By Joseph Cortes
Contributor

IN A PERFECT world, ballet performances would always be punctuated by live orchestral music. This fusion of music and dance makes going to the theater not just a rewarding experience but a truly enlightening one.

That is why when the curtain rises on the gala night of Robbi Bindle's production of "Don Quixote" on Oct. 5 at Alice Tuason, it would be a truly memorable occasion. Not only would it be Lisa Macuja-Elizalde's last ever performance of Kitri (the other one being on Oct. 7, also at Alice Tuason), the presentation would have live orchestral accompaniment.

Macuja-Elizalde says she has always wanted to bring live music to performances of Ballet Manila, but for logistics involved in planning such a show made their staging a rarity. Only one look in the country is suitable for a ballet production with live orchestral accompaniment: the Philippine Center of the Philippines.

The dance company has contracted only two shows with the orchestral ensemble, a Filipiniana program and last March's "The Legends and the Classics," both staged at the CCP Main Theater. Aside from the cost of renting the hall and hiring the orchestra to play the music is prohibitive.

That's why when she conceived the program for the second year of her scheduled three-year farewell to her signature dance roles, she just knew she had to dance Kitri to live music, especially for the last two times.

"I've always wanted to dance to a live orchestra, especially since I'm retiring in two years' time," she says. "I've always wanted

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Filipino soloists featured in Beethoven's 9th Symphony in Jakarta

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

INDONESIAN music-lovers got a taste of Filipino musical talent when Dominic Noel Azcona and soprano Rachelle Gevaudan proved their worth as two soloists in a recent weekend performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony at the Aula Simfonia concert hall in Central Jakarta.

The Filipino soloists were cited as saying that the acoustics of the hall was fantastic.

"The design of the hall is a combination of modern orchestrator mixed with Baroque and Romantic designs," said Azcona. "It is impressive."

The concert was presided by the Jakarta Oratorio Society, with the Gema Swara String Quartet and the Jakarta Simfonia Orchestra under the baton of Stephen Tong.

The concert was another cooperative for the Filipino baritone, last heard in the last UST production of "Barber of Seville" and "La Traviata."

"Yes, this is my first time in Jakarta and my third performance as baritone soloist in Beethoven's Ninth," said Azcona, who is also soloist of the newly-established UST Singers.

He will sing Escamillo in the coming production of "Carmen." He will be singing the Beethoven part again on Dec. 16 in Hong Kong, with the Hong Kong Arch Choir under Antoni Wit-Bernstein.

Greatest music piece

Regarded as one of Beethoven's greatest works, and considered by many as the greatest piece of music ever written, Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in D Minor, Op. 125, is a classic example of a symphony using human voices.

MORE: Azcona at the Aula Simfonia concert hall in Central Jakarta

Indian composer Giuseppe Sinch, in a letter written April 26, 1878, praised the first three movements of the symphony but noted the parts for voices in the last movement were hardly singable.

Azcona said the voice part was one of the most difficult and the most challenging he's ever sung: "The tricky part where the Ninth Symphony is that soloist vocal lines are written in such a way like it was written for instruments with high tessitatures and big leaps. Even my lines have an (short) bass line, which is difficult for a singer."

He added his opening recitative of "O Freunde" is also "quite manageable," and the well-known melody of the Ninth is "very singable."

"I could go on about the ensemble singing which is quite challenging," he said. "Each singer must know each other's temperament and part, how they sing their lines. We must have cohesion."

Azcona said the most difficult of the ensemble parts was the "Alle Menschen Werden Brüder" section: "Each soloist displays each vocal line without any aid from the instruments. So you are left to your skills on how you should go together as ensemble."

The Filipino baritone got the part through the recommendation of another Filipino bass-tenor, Joel Montano, now based in USA.

A few pointers

Azcona said his participation in several productions staged at CCP made him realize that "Philippine audience just about breathe-sing with the music."

"In the last 16 years, I think I have grown a lot doing these operas staged at the CCP. I have worked with brilliant directors such as Tony Quinzon, whose meticulous but genius eye is not for impatient to sing deeper into the character I am portraying."

Azcona said a few pointers which he took to heart every performance were: Always listen something for the audience during the actual performance. Research your character's background. Be sure to be, first, yourself, when subbed.

"In the end, it's not just learning your notes or your music," he said. "You have to convince your audience that you are that character, it will reflect in your singing if you do it right."

An acclaimed soloist of the UST Singers for 12 years, Azcona has just earned a Bachelor in Music from the UST Conservatory of Music. He will pursue a master's degree abroad.

He joins the UST Singers could for teaching that commitment while not losing beat.

"Differences in interpretations and temperaments are bound to arise. Its you have to be poised in both music and in life. Music is the universal language that bonds the hearts of different people. You just have to speak both for it."

'Art 2 Art' bares October episodes

DESIGNER and heritage conservation advocate Lito Ponio

RADIO PROGRAM "Art 2 Art," hosted by Lisa Macuja-Elizalde, has lined its October episodes.

Produced by the Manila Broadcasting Company, "Art 2 Art" airs every Sunday, 3:30-4 p.m., on DZRH 666 AM, on the AM band, and can be viewed simultaneously on RHTV on cable television and on the Internet through DZRH live streaming.

On Oct. 7, Ana Labrador, National Museum assistant director, will talk about the newly-renovated National Art Gallery, which will have its grand opening this month.

On Oct. 14, classical violin ensemble Robert Arkin and Lily Maynard discuss what it's like to be living legends in the classical music "force" which is about the life of jazz legend Gary de la Cruz. The violinist-couple will also talk about the performing arts school they have set up.

On Oct. 21, advertising photographer John Chua reportedly how he has been using his craft to advance causes, such as the preservation of the Bataan Face Treasure and children's welfare.

On Oct. 28, designer and heritage-conservation advocate Lito Ponio talks about his Project Hospih (Historic and Endangered Architecture Saved for Today's Happy).

JOHN Chua, proponent of Photography with a Difference

Through his efforts, he has restored and opened two ancestral homes—Villa Tomaga in Taal, Batangas, and Ave Maria in in Vigan, Ilocos Sur.

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UST Alumni and Robert Seña

Country's biggest orchestra pit unveiled at 'Don Quixote' gala

From page D

er dancer in a live orchestra in our own theater."

Alice Theater's orchestra pit will be the biggest in the country, big enough to hold a 100-man ensemble. It is big enough for pieces that require more than the traditional 40-50 players in an orchestra. If Rafael Manalo has plans of staging the ballet music of Wagner's "Tannhauser," the pit will comfortably seat 65 brass musicians.

Celebrated roles

Macuja-Elizalde's "Don Quixote" is the first of three dance roles she would be bidding adieu to on the second year of her "Swan Song" series.

Apart from Kitri, which she dances for the last time on Oct. 5 and 7, she will also be saying farewell to Giselle on Oct. 14 and 21 and Carmen on Oct. 26 and 27.

Both "Don Quixote" and "Giselle" will be staged at Alice Theater with live orchestral music, while "Carmen" will be staged at the more intimate Star Theater. Both theaters are at the Alice Tuason Complex in Quezon City.

For her final performances in "Don Quixote," Mikhail Martynyuk, principal dancer of the Kremlin Ballet, will

"KITRI is a challenge role, for you want a dancer who has the technique to dance it," says Lisa Macuja-Elizalde.

partner her. The Manila Symphony Orchestra, led by guest conductor Alexander Vilenkin of Moscow's Theatre, will be providing live music for performances of "Don Quixote" and "Giselle." "Carmen" will be performed with recorded music.

Although it is easy to see Kitri—Macuja-Elizalde describes her as a naughty but who's full of love and life—the almost-fanatical dancing required from the ballerina makes it a hated role. This is one of the reasons she is retiring the role, her signature one.

"It is a challenge role," she admits. "You do not need to be a mature performer to do it. But you have to have the technique to dance it. You must be good at your lines and your pointe and be able to execute the energy needed. It's like running three marathons. It has so much dancing, a really abused amount of dancing for any ballerina."

Other performances of "Don Quixote" will feature its Italy Ballet Manila diamond duo Andrew Rosa and guest artist Filipina Ballerina Cecilia Kerche of Ballet Dance Studio.

Ballet Manila principal Rudy de Dios and demi-soloist Aileen Edgardo will be dancing with them in Manila.

They will be dancing with Rudy de Nicholson, who appears courtesy of Anilla Rebel Bandila of Bespa Dance Studio.

The "Swan Song" series is being presented by the Manila Broadcasting Company and co-presented by Bel-Aire's Island Resorts and Spa. Resorts National Artists Collectors Series; and Bank of Singapore.

Macuja-Elizalde confesses that with the impressed Alice Theater, she has never shown that would bring together dancers, singers and musicians to one stage. She says she has to present Manalo's "Mondalo" to the former in the Philippine season.

"It is traditional for Filipino families to go to Star City for Christmas," she says. "Many OFWs who are on Breaks would be coming back here. We should see if we can be able to go and sit down in Alice Theater to watch Manalo's 'Mondalo' with a dance and live orchestra."

4-phase program

The construction on the orchestra pit is the first part of a four phase program to develop Alice Theater. Apart from the pit, more air-conditioning units have already been added to the theater. Later phases would involve improving the theater's acoustics by remodeling the roof and walls of the theater and the backstage area, and adding more dressing rooms.

Associate expert and Ballet Star Season served as consultant in developing the orchestra pit, with Alice Theater's in-house team led by engineer Rene Bellaire handling the construction. Visitors of years were removed to accommodate the pit.

"I am very happy with the result because the pit will also enhance the opening ceremony of the people," notes Macuja-Elizalde. "There is now a proper distance between the first rows of the audience and the performers."

Since the orchestra pit is controlled by a hydraulic system, the pit may be raised to extend the performing area, or lowered to provide additional seats, depending on the size of performance scheduled in the theater.

Alice Theater has served as a venue, not just for Ballet Manila shows but also for pop concerts, musicals and television specials. The studio's first Christmas special, the musical-variety show *Lemuel's Jeepney Gift Shop* will air Dec. 16 at 8:00 PM or visit *ballet-manila.com*. For inquiries about Alice Theater, call tel. 8922703 or e-mail to *info@alicetheater.com.ph*.

3rd quarter saw couples odd and romantic

From page D

Magpio. It is a real Christie find. "Gloria Bulilit" is the play of the year.

Just a few buildings away that the Greenhills Mall Theaters) was a very different musical—the Filipino-Japanese epic "13: The Musical," directed by Bill de Mesa. It was like entering a different world, as different as classic Tagalog is to American slang.

The musical was about a young Japanese boy's "coming-of-age" and again was found youthful excellence and exuberance.

The couples

Jamil Mercado as the cupcake and RJ Santillan as the rocking hero in "13: The Musical" were an odd couple of sorts, although both were straight and their relationship was "normal."

A more romantic couple (there were three couples, actually) were dashing tenor Arnel Pineda and lovely soprano Cris Villonco in "Ibulong Mo Sa Diyos," Filipino's rousing opera in version of "Ibulong Sagot" for Asian-TV Television Network, UCPI, is merged by Cecbo Signos-Bersola.

Other odd couples in *Bulilit* are production were Leo Valdez and Monique Wilson; and Eugene Domingo and Edgar Allen Guzman.

Valdez and Wilson headline the supernatural/psychic production of *Bulilit*. It is Monique's version, "The King and I," given her own.

ROMANTIC COUPLE. Arnisan Fortner and Cris Villonco

Another of the tragic-ending would have been more effective had it been done in silence, without the explosive.

FEU's cultural season

The Far Eastern University is at the midst of its 2012-2013 cultural season, celebrating its 65th year with other universities. The most recent event, at the Sy Center FEU Auditorium, was "Pandayan," a celebration of Filipino music and native instruments.

Produced were the FEU Band, the Symphonic Band, the Orchestra of the Philippines' Bando Sinfonyan; Barangay 14 Musikantes of Cabanatuan City; and the Learning Tree Angklung Ensemble.

It was a most welcome presentation, and we look forward to more shows during the season.

FEU DAMBOO Band with folk dancers

Text and photos by Amadeo Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

THE FIFTH anniversary concert of the Ryan Cayabyab Singers—Aurelio, Erwin, Celine, Ruth, Popper, Vince and Vic—at Music Museum, directed with brio by Ryan Sulit, was a tribute to OPM, pop, musical theater, rock, R&B and what have you.

Erwin stood out because of his good looks and—in my subjective estimation—the song with feeling a fantasy aria from Puccini's "Tosca." It was the only class, aria number in the show.

The seven are high-spirited singers and dancers. To be able to sing and dance while holding on to the mic for dear life (or dear mercy) is quite a feat. Kudos.

The Singing Barber

Alice "Madama Butterfly" came another major opera production, Rossini's "The Barber of Seville," presented by Italian's and the Philippine-Italian Association, with stage direction by Antonio Petrik, and Rapgay Barber conducting the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra at the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

The cast displayed the comic flair demanded by the opera bouffa, with soprano Rachelle Gonzales delightful as the flirtatious Rosina.

Arthur Espiritu was the love interest among bass-baritones, and while he had the most beautiful voice, he just couldn't match the lung power of the Italians Mario Cassi and Mario Filippo Romano, and even Andrew Fernando.

Play of the year

Imagining Mexico's "Sintang Dalaga" (Pure Love), an adaptation of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," which made waves in Manila, Bulacan, was enraged at the universities Rizal Mini Theater with a complete cast and to full, condescension splendor.

Under director Ricardo Abad, it became a beguiling Muslim music-dance drama marked by carefulness, graceful, fluid movement of the arms, which mesmerized.

Young Arenes alumni Nicole Magno and Ia Nolo were most affecting as the tragic lovers (who come to life at the end!), and

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LIFESTYLE Arts&Books

INQUIRER EXCLUSIVE

Literary shocker: J.K. Rowling's new novel after 'Harry Potter' is not for kids

Full of profanity and other real dark things, 'The Casual Vacancy' is about unhappy people doing unhappy things

REVIEW

By Rael S. De Vera

FOR OVER 10 years, all she had known was magic. Since 1997, J.K. Rowling has made money appear out of thin air...making herself wealthier than the Queen of England at one point—and infamous worldwide by conjuring from her

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Literary shocker: J.K. Rowling's new novel…

From page D1

'sudden adult' imagination the boy wizard threw fiction through seven books that also served young-adult fiction into a publishing sensation of unprecedented size.

Now, like Harry Potter breaking the Hello Wand, Rowling seeks greener fields for heavier and safe harbor of fragments to try something completely different. With the arrival of "The Casual Vacancy" (Little, Brown and Company, New York, 2012; 503 pages), Rowling takes her first crack at writing for adults—and very seriously as that.

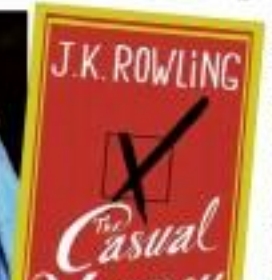
From the very beginning, it is clear that this is not a book for the younger readers who were fans of Rowling's previous work. "Vacancy" is about grownups and their bodily fluids, using very bodily, with a lot of intrigue, violence, sex, drugs, adultery, lying and prolonged divorce into the cauldron.

In the small British town of Pagford, the deliberate social debate is about some derelict of a land named Barry Fair. Another dies suddenly from a brain aneurysm. As the townfolk go through the pantomime of mourning, Fairbrother's seat on the Pagford Parish Council becomes vacant. A tug-of-war between factions in the council as the undercurrents divide becomes an issue.

The book's title refers to the unoccupied seat and everything comes to a head when election time comes around. In the process, Pagford's dominant family begins to schism, and a child's act using a meaningful online identity begins a territorial battle that will destroy lives and reveal secrets.

Despite its appearance, Pagford is full of unhappily married townfolk who gossip, mostly how kinds of their offspring and more or those less privileged and different from them, particularly those from the poor part of town, the Fields.

J.K. ROWLING



At the forefront of the opposite side is the superstitious doll sexist Howard Mollison, chair of the council. Barrhoober's antithesis, Howard seeks to cut off the Fields and close down the town's rehab clinic. He and shrill wife Shirley "were contemplating the casual vacancy; and they saw it, not as an empty space but as a magician's pocket, full of possibilities." It is impossible not to hate Howard immediately.

Reboke

"Vacancy" is both a naked portrait and a fierce rebuke of institutional moralists.

Rowling's young-by-are is obvious one here. The prose is tensive crisp and well-chiseled, confidentially funny at times.

She pare a perfect, starting a little slowly when introducing the not-so-fine folk of Pagford, then mercilessly leading up to the point where "Vacancy" just launches itself bodily toward the turning point, which is the election. Even if you don't like them, you'll want to know what happened to them.

That's also a funny thing considering that, according to one character, "people could have an effing normal." One gets the feeling that Rowling was trying to fit a much bigger narrative in to this single book, as if the characters themselves were trying to escape the bounds of "The Case of Vacancy."

Those mostly unlikable characters are all in their own way wounded but also dangerous "mad-tempered father Simon Price, strict school administrator Colin Wall, bonded social worker Ray Bathwell and beleaguered physician Samantha Amanda, among others. Hanging over all of them is the ever-present fear that, the fallen hero Barrhoober, whose generous example haunts the rest of Pagford because no one can live up to it.

Perhaps the most shocking thing about "The Casual Vacancy" is the behavior of its children. Readers used to the spunky clean teens of Hogwarts will be downright shocked by the flight-ravaged flawed children of Winterbourne Comprehensive. Fans shall, Andrea Price, Krystal Weedon, Gaia Bawden and Subfreinder Jawanda do things which would cause the heck out of Draco Malfoy.

Though Rowling writes all this with a stringent realism, the overall effect is that "Vacancy" is a continually spiraling downer of a book, where everything just gets increasingly worse for everyone. The characters lose their distinct shapes as the book plunges into the gaping maw of its ending.

Comparisons

There will be inevitable comparisons between "Vacancy" and the "Harry Potter" books, and the truth is that "Vacancy," despite its lovely dark observations, lacks the infectious allure of the previous books.

On its own, "The Casual Vacancy" is a fine but not fantastic novel by Rowling. In the meantime, Rowling has said her next book will be for an audience "much younger than those of the Harry Potter books, adding she might return to the Hogwarts universe.

All this means that readers may never return to magic England, a shame in itself, because one can only imagine how much more we can learn if J.K. Rowling could cast just a little more light on it and its history.

Available in hardcover from National Book Store.

What books are you reading?

Brillante Mendoza

2009 Cannes Film Festival Best Director

I am reading Fr. Bernanos's "When Should I Do with My Life?" a collection of inspirational real-life stories of people, old and young, who have asked themselves the question and taken a second to ponder and shifted in another vocation. Originally published in 2005, the new edition has nine new profiles. The book inspires readers to find their own unique voice, their own identity.

Michael L. Tan

Medical anthropologist. Op-Ed columnist ("Pinoy Kasi")

I used to read voraciously. Finishing up books like first-class meals, and if I happened to run out of a particularly riveting book for bedtime reading, I'd sometimes stay up the whole night, intent on finishing.

Then the kids arrived and changed everything. For the past eight years or so, with each new kid, I'd go through a cycle, five of reading new dog-eared books like "Goodnight Moon" and "Say Mahirang Mauck."

As they grow older, they'd begin to read on their own, so each other, and to me, in between trying to sneak in TV or cheats to the computer or smartphone.

It's a rare night when I can still have enough energy to read "big people's books" but being a mother, I try to keep the brain going, mainly reading magazines…hand-copies or online—with to mind fun, allowing me to scroll, skim, browse, and sometimes to unwind something and reflect.

If the articles are long, like the ones you have in the *New York Times* from day magazine, I read them in installments, saving it for the next, and still another night.

Like the magazine, bedtime books have to be the type I can read in installments. No novels, definitely.

The two books I'm tackling right now reflect this. One is Diarmaid MacCulloch's "Christianity: The First Three Thousand Years," which has helped me to better understand contemporary society, and religion, a kind of re-learning to see and to better appreciate the diversity of Christianity as Church, and as church-es. I started out with the first chapter, which explains why the history of Christianity must go back to the era before Christ, to Greeks and Romans, and Judaism.

Seeing the loss of reproductive health debates, I skipped to the last chapter to read about the late 20th-century's culture wars, of church-es—Catholic and Protestant—many wars, and efforts at reclaiming of moralities. I was deeply moved by a short account about late Pope John XXIII risked the wrath of his cardinals by pushing for Vatican II, and how his successor, Paul VI, had to turn down the rhetoric, go slow on reforms.

I'm now reading a chapter on the rise of universities in Europe, despite a past of Christianity with their roots in "rachel schools," starting here, with wealth, into large institutions of learning.

BRILLANTE Mendoza, Michael L. Tan

Each chapter can stand alone, full of historical and theological minutiae but nothing ever ironic, all the way up to St. Francis of Assisi's simple clothing still preserved in remind the Franciscans of their special commitment to poverty and humility.

Another book I'm dipping (or night) and put down this book, it is never without a sense of awe with Christianity…and a sadness, too, realizing how our practice of Christianity has often become dogmatic and divisive, as contrary to an original spirit of inquisitiveness and social transformation.

At least's down easy reading, this book of 1,184 pages, as I've tried to alternate with Fr Bernard and Sabby Sharyanad's "Human Shock: New Thinking about Children," given to me by a close friend who's appreciated my adventures (and misadventures) with parenting. "Human Shock" mainly challenges modern-day parenting myths, for example, about the need to furnish prams such children.

No. She and her sniper, children can tell if you're lying. And if you keep telling them they're smart, in-sincere age them to achieve, they might end up under performing because your expected praise begins to worry them. Does dad know something I don't about myself? Maybe I'm dumb, and so they have to keep towering me.

"Human Shock"'s have an easy read (with chapter titles like "Why Rich Lie", "The Interest of Teenage Rebellion", "Can Self Control Be Taught") but it's not pop psychology either. The book draws from many studies conducted around parenting with a 62-page "Selected Sources and References."

As the authors point out in their preface, findings on child-rearing don't accrue "on the wings of a single experiment" but "in a crawl, over a decade, from various studies replicating and refining prior ones." Even more importantly, they acknowledge that "many of the important ideas have been right under our nose" without our knowing it.

And that's where I've thought. This is such a great book, but how much of it applies to the Philippines? There's a whole chapter on teaching children about race and skin color, which I don't think is too important in the Philippines except maybe when they're older and begin to believe their unique about papaya skin whiteners and glutathione injections.

In more is another example, our problem in the Philippines isn't the overpraise for kids but the lack of it, even the way we put down kids. I grew up constantly being told I was "gunggong" (stupid) and "pangit" (unattractive) with my ethnic Chinese Tiger parents claiming the comments were never meant to be offensive. Sure.

There's much to unlearn from this book and to see what we can use for the Philippines. I could never imagine a chapter about language learning, feeling unfree alongside to learn that playing tapes of foreign languages to children doesn't automatically mean they'll develop the ear for those sounds later, and make it easier for them to pick up those languages.

This is not a CD isn't too useful, what you need is to have the sounds attached to real persons, with faces and facial expressions. "Gunggong" (stupid) might see should have known. Language isn't just about pronunciation and grammar, but about people interacting.

Which is why the Philippines can be a paradise for linguistic researchers, given how our children grow up literally in a corner of Babel, meeting people speaking languages both all over the Philippines, all over the world.

So throw out those CDs, and rather than forcing your domestic helpers to speak "stay English" with the kids, encourage them to expose your children to their home languages.

NCCA opens nominations for National Artist

THE NATIONAL Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) are now accepting nominations to the Order of the National Artists Award.

The Order of the National Artists award is the highest honor the country gives to its eminent artists.

Individuals and nongovernment-cultural organizations, educational institutions, private businesses and councils may nominate artists under the categories of dance, film, theater, visual arts, literature, film and broadcast arts, and architecture, design and allied arts.

Nominees should be Filipino citizens, who, through content and form of their works, have contributed in building a Filipino sense of individual, who have increased in a mode of creative expression or style thus raising the standard and making an impact on succeeding generations of artists, who have created a substantial and significant body of works and/or consistently displayed excellence in the practice of their art form thus enriching artistic expression or style; and who enjoy broad acceptance through recognition, national and/or international recognition, critical acclaim and/or success of their works, respect and esteem from peers.

Nominations forms and guidelines may be secured from The Order of the National Artists Award Secretariat, Office of the Executive Director, National Commission for Culture and the Arts, 633 General Luna St., Intramuros, Manila (Secretariat: Frances S. Alfonso), or The Order of the National Artists Award Secretariat, Office of the Artistic Director, Cultural Center of the Philippines, CCP Complex, Roxas City Boulevard, Pasay City (Attention: Myleen Hernando).

Call Frances S. Alfonso at NCCA at 5272592 loc. 504 and 5272571 e-mail fsalfonso_ncca@yahoo.com.ph; or Myleen Hernando at CCP at 8321125, loc. 1723, 1122, or 8323068, e-mail address hernando@yahoo.com.

Read Lit District is highlight of Philippine Book Development Month

THE NATIONAL Book Development Board (NBDB) is organizing Read Lit Districts.

"Read Lit District" plans on the term "real light district" to evoke the sensitive and seductive pleasures of reading.

It will be held at the Ayala Museum, during the annual Philippine International Literary Festival from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Writers featured in Read Lit District are Chris Mooni, poet and professor at the University of California and writer of the novel "Virgin of Flames, Brunch"; Tess Sanchez, fictioner and co-founder of New York Writers Workshop; and co-author of the popular text "The Portable Effin in Creative Writing"; literature Isabel Rubio, author of "Banana Heart Summer" and professor at the University of Mindanao, Davao; and Ben Spillman whose writing includes celebrated young adult novels "Love is a UFO" and "Elbo," as well as the internationally popular "Jake" series for younger readers.

Read Lit District is the highlight of the Philippine Book Development Month. NBDB is hosting the festival with the support of the Philippine Heritage Library, Philippine Airlines and National Book Store.

Call Camille de la Rosa at 9209963 loc. 811; e-mail cmdelarosa@nbdb.gov.ph; visit www.nbdb.gov.ph.

UST Varsitarian to host national campus press conference, Oct. 22-24

THE VARSITARIAN, the 84-year-old official student publication of the University of Santo Tomas, will hold its biennial, the 14th UST National Campus Journalism Festival, Oct. 22-24, at the Thomas Aquinas Research Complex multimedia, UST, España, Manila.

Theme for the year's edition is "Back to Basics," which reflects the newspaper's renewed emphasis on the fundamental rules of accuracy, fairness and independence of classic journalism.

The workshop is open to college campus journalists and students, high school journalism instructors, and campus press advisers.

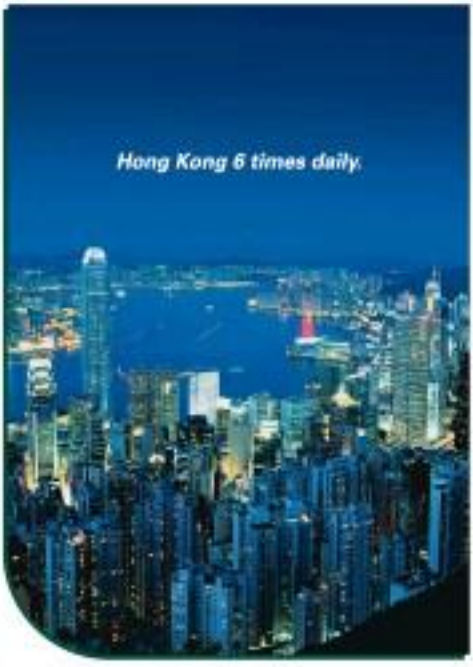
Invited lecturers are Jessica Soho of GMA, sports columnist Quinito Henson, business columnist Bb Mendoza, Philippine Star editor-columnist Michiko Villanueva, broadcaster Mindi Dacuil, award-winning literary Eros Atalia, 2012 Palanca grand prize-winning poet Eochrane Ocampo, Associated Press photographer Aaron Favila, Manila Bulletin associate editor Hector Cantomi, business columnist Lysanne Villanueva and Fr. Herman Laforga of Radio Veritas.

Registration fee is only P1,500. The committee subscribes the three-day conference and will host opening day cocktails and closing fellowship dinner.

For more information and registration, search Kristiyano at Room 105, Tan Yan Kee Student Center, UST España. Alternatively call 0919.631.8x, 8203 and look for Jayson Evangelista (0915.2203650) or Marianne Lucero (0915.2679763).

FIRST LOOK AT 'WOLVERINE'

Studio 20th Century Fox has released the high-definition first look photo at "The Wolverine," starring Hugh Jackman and directed by James Mangold. The movie is based on the celebrated comic book arc, "The Wolverine." A look-ingoo, the adventure-action sequel will find Logan/Wolverine face-to-face in an epic battle that will leave him forever changed." The movie will be distributed in the Philippines by Warner Bros. and will open July 25, 2013.



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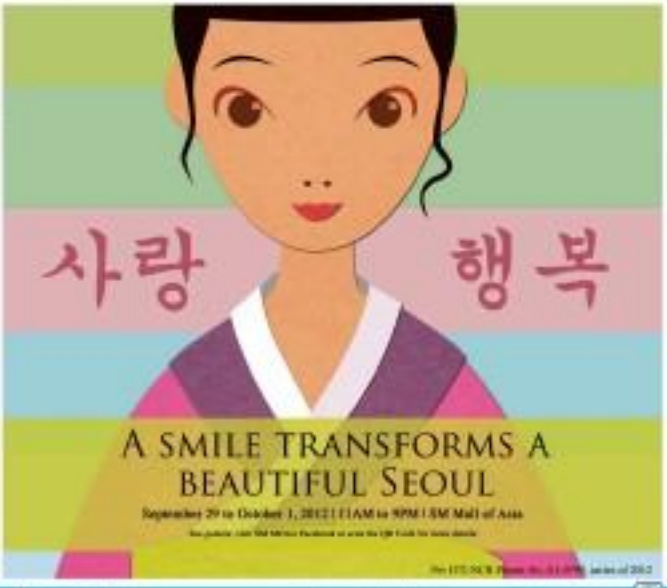

Happy Switcher confesses: @Home is where her heart is

FOR Janine Tejan-Parsons, founder of the creative playshop Kids Ahoy and the home school Center for Blended Learning, being entrusted on the Internet player a major role in keeping her students, family and staff happily hooked in.

So after years of frustration with her old Internet provider, the multitalented mom decided to subscribe to Tattoo@Home and she could not be happier.

"With Tattoo@Home, I get the most bang for my buck! I pay the same rate as with my old Internet provider but I get double the speed at 2 mbps. This extra speed has allowed me to do things so much faster and my students and teachers are now enjoying the amazing difference in our connection as well," Parsons said.

Taking play to another level

Center for Blended Learning is an offshoot of Kids Ahoy, the creative playshop she put up in 2007 for her homeschooled son CJ.

"We took playdates to another level," she recounts. "Our playdates had themes, and anyone, not just CJ's real friends', could join."

Initial participants came from a blog she had started on play advocacy "Kids need play. That's what they do. Some are too burdened with schoolwork and homework and extracurriculars as it is. Give kids a chance to play. Be themselves, and you'll find that they'll excel even better in school—which better than if you force them to study or take tutorials."

Many of those Kids Ahoy playdates became CJ's close friends. After a while, the other moms noticed that their children were more excited to attend Kids Ahoy than they were to go to school. "So they asked me, 'why can't the kids go to school here?' I thought about it, and said, 'why not? It was pretty much what I was doing anyway with CJ." Though homeschooled, CJ had a mentor who helped him with subjects his mom didn't feel comfortable in—"Star Math!" Janine says with a laugh. "But there are also many things only a mom can teach her kids, like how to live life, to be a good person, important life-skills," she adds.

Thus, Center for Blended Learning (CBL)—or the Blended Learning Program—was born in 2010.

Taking learning online

The original definition of "blended learning"...an approach already gaining popularity in the U.S. at the time, is a combination of online and classroom instruction. Janine took it a step further by adding more dimensions to it: "Blended Learning is about flexible learning spaces. We take advantage of the best of all worlds—classroom (or face-to-face) learning, online, home, the community, and the mall."

Though keyed on the basic requirements of the Department of Education, Kids Ahoy-Center for Blended Learning enriches the content with varied activities to make learning more dynamic, exciting, fun, and tailor-made for every child.

"The kids come to 'school' only three days a week: two days for academics, and one day for enrichment classes. These are core art, music, PE, creative writing, service learning, financial literacy, eco-literacy," Janine explains. Other enrichment classes are Jr. Toastmasters, logic for kids, philosophy for kids, among others.

By using an online classroom platform called Edu3.0, as well as Facebook and Tumblr, the teachers, parents, and students are able to keep tabs on the pace of the subjects, activities and events in school. These also create exciting spaces where ideas, online resources, and tips are born and exchanged.

"The Internet is our bully," says Janine. "It acts as our 'meeting ground', although we pretty much see each other every week for special activities or field trips!" she adds. "We make it a point that all our teachers, parents, and students have a reliable Internet connection and that they learn how to 'live' in the world of the Web." That means having the 21st century skills to identify, navigate, use, analyze, and aggregate the mind-boggling amount of data presented to them. Other 21st century skills focused on in the Blended Learning Program are critical thinking and problem solving, communication, collaboration and creativity and innovation.

Now 11 years old and an incoming 6th grader at Cornerstone Academy, a California-based online public charter school which likewise combines virtual classes with occasional face-to-face sessions, CJ is Center for Blended Learning's first "graduate".

"He and his classmates are proof that our blended learning program works," Janine asserts. The global boy recently got accepted to the US National Junior Honor Society, and his old classmates have consistently ranked impressively high in both national and internationally-recognized equivalency exams.

With CJ attending school abroad and the Kids Ahoy-CBL community steadily growing, Janine needs to be connected 24/7. While CJ is in Manila, he needs a fast and stable connection for his Minecraft and other online games. While he's abroad, it's essential he regular Skype sessions with mom, me, and husband and keep sessions with CJ's professors.

Everyday, however, Janine can only access Tattoo@Home to make sure she's up-to-date with all the activities at CBL—school's in the teacher's lesson plans, assignments of the students at play, or suggestions for field trips or new courses. She also explores her somewhere to manage Kids Ahoy and CBL's social network pages and accounts. She hopes to open up the Center and the blended learners to global collaboration projects with learners from other countries this school year.

"If you would visit the Kids Ahoy website, you would see that we are a group that loves taking pictures. And we need to upload and share these pictures immediately with our parents and students. You would need a extremely reliable Internet connection with that. So I happily switched to Tattoo@Home. I instantly thought that it was a bit more expensive but I realized that it actually offers more value for my money! I should have switched a long time ago," Janine adds.

"The traditional approach is textbook-lecture, four-cornered classroom, kids hunched over paper with pencil—that's not all there is to learning anymore. Kids learn better if they're stimulated, paid attention to, and given the chance to explore and discover what they want to do," Janine asserts.

Like pre-active mom Janine Parsons, let your kids explore the world with reliable, fast and reliable Internet connection only from Tattoo@Home.

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LIFESTYLE Arts&Books

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2012 Spanish film fest to screen 'darker' films

By Irene C. Perez

EXPECT DARKER films in this year's run of Pelicula, the annual Spanish film festival in Manila.

Described as "the premiere Spanish film festival in Asia," or "the largest celebration of Spanish and Latin American filmmaking in Asia and the Pacific," it will run Oct. 4-14 in Greenbelt 3 Cinemas, Makati.

Opening movie is "No Habrá Paz para los Malvados" (No Rest for the Wicked, 2011), on Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m., in Cinema 2, Greenbelt 3, Makati (by invitation). The Spanish role duckler won six Goya awards, including Best Picture, Best Actor and Best Director for Enrique Urbizu.

Each time Cervantes de Manila has been organizing Peliculas since 2001. For the 11th year of the festival, it is teaming up with the Spanish Embassy in the Philippines and Film Development Council of the Philippines, and screening 16 feature films, nine shorts and two documentaries.

Animation for adults

Spanish Ambassador to the Philippines Jorge Dezcallar, in a press conference at MyCinema, Greenbelt 3, said the films were chosen according to their "relevance, concept and style."

Moviegoers could look forward to "Arrugas" (Wrinkles, 2012), an animation movie about the Filoni ship between two men in a home for the elderly. The film, directed by Ignacio Ferreras, won three Animation in the 2012 Goya Awards.

The horror-thriller "Mientras Duermes" (Sleep Tight, 2011) and the May-December drama "Madrid, 1987" (2011), will have their Philippine premiere in Peliculas.

Spanish director Alberto Rodríguez will be in Manila on Oct. 8 for the screening of his film, "Grupo 7." It tells the story of Unit 7, a police unit tasked to fight drug trafficking in Spain's ghettos during the '80s. The film has been short-listed as the Spanish representative in the year's Oscars' Best Foreign Film category.

Rodríguez will answer questions from the audience after the screening.

The other films are: "Grande el Olor del Mar No Cabrá" (The Scent of the Smell of the Sea, 2010), by Lilis Rosado Gonzalez, "Un Cuento Chino" (A Chinese Tall Tale, Spain and Argentina, 2011), by Sebastián Borensztein; "Dos Hermanos" (Two Siblings, Argentina, 2010), by Daniel Burman; "Abre," by Alberto

2012MMD0001

SCENE from "Arrugas"

'Arrugas': Animated feature on old age

By Shirley O. Lua
Contributor

FILM REVIEW

FILM: "ARRUGAS" comes an animated cartoon that tackles the conditions of old people.

Based on Paco Roca's graphic novel, which won the Premio Nacional de Cómic in 2008, the full-length animation "Arrugas" (2011) (English title: "Wrinkles") was directed by Ignacio Ferreras, with screenplay by Angel de la Cruz, Roca, Ferreras and Rosanna Cerdeiras. It won the 2012 Premios Goya for Best Adapted Screenplay and Best Animated Film.

Emilio (Carlos González), a retired banker, is sent to stay at a home for the aged. He roommates, Miguel (Alfonso Enamorado), is a jolly and wise-cracking bachelor whose family migrated to Argentina when he was a child, and

MMD0401 E1

SPANISH Ambassador to the Philippines Jorge Domecq, Instituto Cervantes director Eduardo Calvo, Film Development Council of the Philippines chair Briccio Santos

2012 Spanish film fest to screen . . .

From page E1

Rodrigues (2009); "Kinnarachi, no frontier en el Cielo" (Halfbreeds: A Mirror in the Sky, 2012), by Irlan Rollinin; "Lo Mejor De Eva" (Bad Impulse, 2012), by Gustavo Salmerón; "Mi Peque" (Black Bread, 2010), by Agustí Villaronga; "La Chispa de la Vida" (The Spark of Life, 2011), by Alex de La Iglesia; "I Wanna Fandango" (I Spanic Movies, 2011), by Mat Lynolte; "10Cmindo" (10Rounds, 2010), by Jorge Coira; "Mi Egoísmo" (In Eighty Days, 2010), by Jon Daniels and José Mari Goenaga.

Coincidence

Instituto Cervantes director Eduardo Calvo clarified that the films were not chosen based on their heavy themes.

"It was a coincidence that most of the films deal with dark topics," he said. "People, including filmmakers, are inspired with emotions; the films are also relatable."

He said there would also be some comedies and light dramas in the selection.

The contemporary short films are Basque region-set "Amaia," by Isabel Hazquetz; "Aguilde (Rebuilds)" (Death), by Asier Altuzar; "La Cochadora de Maquinas" (Daisy Garter), by Enrique García and Ignacio Salazar; "Exhibition 19," by Alain Gutiérrez and Maite Barrientos; "La Gota Caliente" (The Tonic Knot), by Ron Cremaches; "Sinvoño (Todo Bien)" (Everything's Alright), by Miguel Angel Jiménez; "Un Sueño de Metrobe" (A Creepy Boyfriend), by Borja Cobeaga; "Todos Ahora" (Boom the Award)" (Blanche ud Small), by Angel Alcázar de, and "El Premio" (The Award), by Lara Izagirre.

All films were released in 2011.

The films shown in 2011, are "Hollywood Talkies," the journey of Spanish actors in the US during the '30s, and "Jacques Lessard, el Dejo Chico," a bio of the French photographer.

As in the previous years, festival goers will get their ballot for the Audience Choice award. One may join by searching at least five films and accomplishing a ballot that entitles to a raffle entry. Ticket is at P60 per movie.

The winning movie will be screened on the last day, Oct. 14, at 9:30 p.m. A round trip plane fare to Madrid, Spain, via Qatar Airways will be raffled off before the screening.

Visit www.pelicula.ph, http://www.facebook.com/InstitutoCervantesManila or Instituto Cervantes de Manila's at 005 Dr. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila.

SCENE from "Lo Mejor de Eva"

'Lo Mejor de Eva': The seducer and the seduced

By Alice M. Sun Cua
Contributor

IF YOU could live your life all over, would you make the same choices? Definitely a difficult question to answer, especially for Eva, the protagonist of "Lo Mejor de Eva" (The Best of Eva), the 2012 erotic crime thriller directed by Sebastian Riestra.

Eva (Leonor Watling) is a young, newly married lawyer. She has a dream job which requires passionate and unpleasant duties as lawfully mandated. Eva sees her chance of a conviction as all indications point to Pedro (Pablo Derqui), a powerful and corrupt character who has a string of criminal cases against him, but has never been prosecuted.

Eva, who had married for a better future when she was younger but was convinced by her sister Esther to take up law, feels a sense of kinship with the dead woman. As the movie unfolds, we see the contradictory relationship she has with the father, who is overly loving and fussing him, refusing to even visit him regardless of what he is in comas in a hospital after a stroke.

Rocco (Miguel Angel Silvestre) enters her life in a most curious way: appearing on her doorsteps one rainy night offering escort service. A minister in wilderness, a scouts, but Rocco, who tells her that he might be able to help her cope with her loss, because the dead prostitute was his close friend.

Needless to say, Rocco is tall, attractive, sensitive and enlightens. Eva has always followed a rigid pattern in life, her sense of justice is admirable, like her patterns of living alone, including a strict running schedule at night. After her encounters with Rocco however, Eva finds herself in a maelstrom of desiring emotions that she cannot control. The dissonances further sets a very unexpected and surprising, but satisfying conclusion.

Leonor Watling ("Habla con Ella" is among her movies) gives a striking performance of a staff and always-in-control lawyer who now finds herself beyond her depth as she becomes obsessed with the prosecution of Pedro, the enemy of which will certainly give her promotion and honor, and being drawn into the web of mystery that surrounds Rocco. She gives flesh to the character Eva, both the seduced and the seducer, in the slightest twitch of the lip, a quick grimace, a sudden increase of the fingers, a furrow of an eyebrow.

Scenes may find the need to suspend disbelief as we watch a woman who had been in control all her life suddenly unravels, exposing herself to precarious and at times unconceivably dangerous situations, but that is only one of the story's strengths. And like her namesake in the Garden of Eden, partaking of the forbidden fruit, so it were, bringing consequences, both dramatic and emotionally profiling beyond imagination.

Miguel Angel Silvestre gives life to the character of Rocco as the handsome gigolo, suave, soft-spoken, mysterious, and at once, dangerous. The erotic scenes between the two sizzle, and the viewers never flinches or is heaven dejection.

Adriana Ugarte as Marta, the sister of Eva, and Nathalie Poza as Berta, the wife of Pedro, provide strong support in this film, which will long be remembered after it has been viewed.

The author is a physician and poet.

'Arrugas': Animated . . .

From page E1

in his middle age, he returned to his motherland. Miguel shamelessly takes advantage of his fellow residents' deteriorating mental health, playing along with their make-believe, cheating them, and earning from into giving him money. Mr. Jardillo that the residents, Blissfully unaware of their almost suicidal predicament, need to be preoccupied with something such that or they would "lose their marbles." To him, his stays keep their hopes alive.

With a delicate palette, the film evokes poignant illustrations of old people "forced" to "by their families. The elderly can't become worry more like a prison fortress, with high walls and fences. It is cold-it, almost eerily stronghold, overflowing with spotless corridors, assorted state-of-the-art facilities, and modeling dentals.

Terrors of old age

Old age holds several terrors: being alone, feeling abandoned, doubting about family love, growing more infirm, and experiencing a customary collision of doing nothing. But a greater terror exists, the film shows, and this is an all-recognizable of the irreversible disintegration of one's mind.

The elderly can house his or another re-enrollment to a medicenter. On his arrival, Emilio is met to a smiling old lady, who peers back every word he utters. He is aghast to witness Señor Romero's reported amnesia of his Dance Express journey, as Carmencita's paroxysm of shrieks popping out of nowhere even in the pressing cries. To some, pound there, as if in a public locale, minimum protests and screams from the upper floor could be heard. Sometimes, the residents should not laugh, except that "spectacle" is an icon member chamber for those with advanced stages of dementia.

The film raises concerns and fears which every being would have to eventually face. Where does one locate the precious last days of one's life on earth? Should a loving family leave their parents "locked" to a convenient home and rarely drop by on visit except on Christmas Day? Does it matter to have a choice not to be a burden to his loved ones, or would she/he rather be in the care of strangers?

The film infuses humor into dialogues and situations, perhaps to neutralize an atmosphere of depression that might be evoked by the gravity of its subject matter, or to suggest ironic subtexts. Scenes validating the uncomparable matchless that still follow are capable of (e.g., the hilarious gymnastics hours Miguel's impish schemes to conceal Emilio's apparent ailment from the doctor's not as light-hearted interludes.

Secret behind smile

Nevertheless, "Arrugas" shows portraits depicting the gentle comfort that comes with age, or the ability to face their fears the ravages of time. A patient named Modesto appears at mealtime, and like a big baby, is spoon-fed by his devoted wife Dolores. She tenderly wipes the drool from the corner of his mouth. Often, she whispers into his ear, subtly makes him smile. Still of sound health, Dolores has opted to stay in the retirement home to care for her husband.

The secret behind Modesto's smile is later revealed in a flashback. Twelve-year-old Modesto has asked Dolores to be his girl, and soon her by bringing her a "ritual." Henceforth Dolores would leave him by calling him "chico." And he would smile. Ah, somewhere in the cobwebs of a fading mind lingers the faint radiance of a sweet long ago.

Modesto's condition heralds even the low state of Emilio's senility. Emilio has accused Miguel of hiding his wallet, then his wristwatch and black socks. Gradually but frequently, Emilio's behavior manifests worsening symptoms of dyphonia's, culminating in his parade accident with Miguel and Antonio, one of their newfound companions. Subsequently, Emilio is taken "upstairs." And in a touching gesture of sacrifice, Miguel voluntarily moves upstairs to look after Emilio.

Miguel's conversion, from an accustomed rebellion to a transition, is the film's ultimate vision of humanity's hope and triumph in the midst of degeneration, for at the root of our human frailty lies the origin of our basic decency. And in that light, despite the film's inherent sad subject of a possible dementia, we can still see it in parts.

Alexis O. Tan teaches literature at De La Salle University in Manila. She specializes in Philippine literature, diasporic studies, and film and literature. She is a member of the Philippine Center of International PEN, and one of the founding members of Ateneo Literary Collective, a Manila-based poets' group.

FEU film fest to screen 25 shorts today; video competition launched

From page E2

[illegible] 25 short films on Oct. 1, 1pm to 6pm in Oct. 2.

Making waves

The festivities on Morayta Street, Manila, has shaken other new student artists in the film festival circuit lately, and internationally.

Art Lenon, a Mass Communications graduate, has attended film festivals abroad like "Si Pitong," about a train robber of the Philippine National Railways, won the Special Jury Prize in the 13th Jeonju International Film Festival in Korea.

Another of Lenon's shorts, "Padang," won the Grand Prize in the 2013 Oberhausen Kurzfilmtage Festival in Germany. "Si Pitong" was shown in the 41st International Film Festival Rotterdam also in Germany.

FEU alumnus Ramiro Reiko bagged the Best Cinematography award of the 2012 Cinemalaya for his work on "Dagitab," which also won Best Picture.

Pilipino Cinemanaya for the first time devised separate programs for short films made by university students. FEU was given its own slot, along with Ateneo de Manila University and University of the Philippines.

Online promotions channel of FEU in the film industry include Dennis Esquerra, associate director of the Mowelfund Film Festival, and cinematographer Jim Limbaroc.

Post [illegible] www.facebook.com/FEU-Filmfest; e-mail: feufilmsociety@gmail.com.

'Un Cuento Chino': When a cow falls from the sky and other mis/fortunes

By Marjorie Ovejo
Contributor

"UN CUENTO Chino"

FILM REVIEW

SET IN THE Buenos Aires of Jorge Luis Borges, "Un Cuento Chino" (2011), directed by Sebastián Borensztein, begins with an unlucky woman named Veronica Pagés, Chino, with two Jewish cats in a wooden boat on a perilous day.

The rain doused in like old rings, a love song in this recently-beloved, and then gone in. In the cosmic aspect of the boat to retrieve a drowned ring for her to wear on their wedding day. And here we're going back to where she started, a cow falls from the sky straight on to her! As the scenario suddenly pans out, the unbelievable event is seen at a little local bonding in two on an otherwise serene river, and we hear the young man's cries of anguish notwithstanding in the plot of the neighbors.

The film opens immediately. In a busy street in Buenos Aires where the fortuneria de Corsini, a handsome shop of Roberto de Grosso, is located. He is a middle-aged penguin man with fixed habits about them, wears off-putting coats and hats, and every single and he orders from his chauffeur-supplier. He had inherited the hardware store from his father who had died somewhere scraping by with sons in newspaper plastic as a sudden going off in war against Britain over the disputed territory of the Falklands.

On his return he took over of his mother, and when she died Roberto lived by himself. Now, the other rooms house in the apartment connected to his shop, aside his revealing mind, and talks to himself about the stupid customer of the day who came to his hardware store. After awhile, he took to his newspaper then goes to bed. But not before his bedside table clock rolls expressly 11 p.m.

Roberto has a few luxuries of material nature to lighten up his dreary routine, aside from ordering by mail delicate glass stained figurines for the collection he keeps in boxes of his late mother. He loves reading novels even liking the airplanes that land in and take off from his city, and relishes every night adding to his collection of news clippings on the absurd and incongruous in daily life.

Right after his morning meal, he sits down to read the newspaper. But he does not walk from his neighbors. When he finds something interesting to clip, he first reads it aloud to himself, imagining himself in the character's shoes and getting a big kick out of the seeming absurdity of the events. One of these events makes him laugh to himself as he imagines the news story of a "Fatal Mistake," where the lovers make love in their padded air crashes their deadening sexual climax at the same time as the co's bodies get accidentally released and the car plunges into the deep ravine.

Then his life's routine moved from day to day until one weekend morning, while he's sitting on his chair near the counter, he observes a young Chinese man being thrown out of the taxi, screaming agitatedly to the departing driver. Roberto decides to go over to help the young man, who appears to just landed in the city and who speaks not a word of Spanish. Utilizing the linguistic capacity between them by using body language, the young man shows Roberto an address in Buenos Aires written on the letters sent. Roberto eventually learns that the young man's name is Jun (played by Ignacio Huang) and that he is desperately looking for his Tío Pan, an uncle who had settled in the business in Buenos Aires, and who could take him in and even employ him.

Grudging quest

Jun's quest for his Tío Pan inevitably becomes Roberto's quest, albeit quite begrudgingly, since the middle-aged bachelor does not especially want to be involved and resents not imagine having an idiot who does not speak his language living under his roof. Jun's accidental falling into Roberto's life seems like a misfortune, and the changes this event makes seem undesirable to Roberto. But Roberto also senses that what's more undesirable is for Jun to be left on his own. But that never to stand to abandon Jun on the highway. This has been done [illegible] Jun when they were searching for the last uncle in the Chinatown of Barrio Anto.

While Jun's uncle still had to be located by the Chinese Embassy in Buenos Aires, Roberto had no choice but to put him up in one of the rooms of his house. Roberto lets his host be put some order into the mess that Jun almost misfortune does to his regular routine.

His every decision is based on how he can be assured that Jun understood that his stay had to be within the bearable limit of a week, in exchange for shelter and food. Jun cleans up Roberto's yard of accumulated junk and whitewashes the walls of the yard. It is an easy task for the 25-year-old Jun, who had previously worked as a tea painter in a factory in China.

Past fantasy

But Jun wasn't the only one bringing some change into Roberto's routine life. The store keeper has Jibrael Jamir Amat comes visiting her brother's family, just a few houses away from Roberto's place. She is the fantasy of Roberto's lost youth, but there was a relationship that never materialized as a matter of fact, Roberto still desires her, but is determined to make his usual reserve.

Even with the decision to fight her affection, using his goodness and capacity for "necessary duties," Roberto proves to remain diverse and unmoved by her demonstrations of affection for him. Most inevitably given Jun where she invites Roberto over for dinner in her brother's house. The following day she brings Jun around the city on a respective excursion while Roberto stays put in the hardware store dealing with the drudgery of unlikable customers and cheating suppliers.

When they come back, the response to Roberto is the elements of the unbecoming tone of the while trying to sense where she stands in Roberto's unimaginative heart.

The different strands of the separate lives of these three ordinary characters are delicately handled in the last part of the film, the writer's and director's eye first on the narrative. Here the lost uncle is found at last, his real name revealed to Roberto by the publisher. To intellectualize his life.

Before the young man leaves, there is a candle between him and Roberto, via a Chinese takeaway transferee, on life's meaning. Almost comes to commingledness, as presumed by their different views and desires. This unplanned romantic moment is the first quiet moment of revelation, like the inner echo of the spirit in the river within a tweed-cyclone is broken into tears, or the solemn cry of the love [illegible] forever.

Roberto soon realizes that this unusual turn of his life is of an unusual duration and never envisioned his life previously to be [illegible] it all. But would he? Would Jun's unexpected sound reminder of cows falling from the sky convince Roberto to take life by its personal hand?

"Un Cuento Chino" would have been a comedy were it not for its narrative's unassuming realism. The director utilizes life of Roberto as given directly by the convincing acting of Ricardo Darín, whose expressive face speaks of his character's doggedness in living a life of choices and desires. But Roberto's is not a doggedness borne out of a hostile personality. It is sprung from a man's deep fantasy of [illegible] others into his private life and an equally deep desire for a certain life and an equally deep desire for a certain life and an equally deep desire for a certain

FEU film fest to screen 25 shorts today; video competition launched

LEO Martinez in "Kabulusan," a short film

FEU STUDENTS in action

By Lenox G. Katigbak
Contributor

WITH THE recent achievements of Philippine cinema in international festivals, young people, especially students, have taken to independent film.

There has also been visible support of universities and institutions for the promotion of Philippine cinema. For example, the De La Salle University (DLSU) Film Society has come up with programs to uplift students' film literacy and to hone their craft in filmmaking.

In fact, FEU is organizing the first FEU Video Open, a short film competition for students in the National Capital Region.

The competition is part of the 30th Anniversary of FEU Mediatore, a university-wide festival that showcases the films made by FEU students. It will be held on Nov. 13-16 at the FEU auditorium.

"We want to organize this student film festival because there are many universities here in the University Belt that have filmmaking classes, and there is no festival for students yet around the area," FEU Filmcluster coordinator Cherah Millon said.

Millon has initially organized a small competition among senior mass communication students of FEU.

Culminating activity

"We have [a program in the Communication Department, called] Sine Pito, which is like a film festival. The film society thought of having a culminating activity for students taking Alternative Film Production," Millon said. "We want to recognize the works of the students in filmmaking."

Sine Pito started six years ago as a very small event in the Mass Communication department of the university. Eventually students from other colleges joined the event.

"We want to expose our students to filmmaking and we want to introduce FEU as a ground for independent filmmakers," Millon said.

Millon said some works by the FEU Mass Communication students had won recognitions and been screened in festivals. Veronica Santiago's "Isod si Maria," 2011 Sine Pito Best Short Narrative, won second place in the Short Feature category of the

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SHANG

LIFESTYLE Arts&Books

Santo Domingo Church, La Naval de Manila shrine to be declared National Cultural Treasures

By Lenore Lee
Contributor

THE PHILIPPINE government, through the National Museum, will declare this week the Santo Domingo Church, with its Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary-La Naval de Manila, in Quezon City as a National Cultural Treasure.

The declaration, according to the National Museum, recognizes Santo Domingo-La Naval both as an institution and a structure, as well as a repository of modern art.

The declaration will be formally announced on Oct. 4 at 3 p.m. during the traditional commemoration of Nuestra Señora del Santísimo Rosario, La Naval de Manila, to be led by divine rector Fr. Giuseppe Ambrosi, OP. To formally accept the declaration is Fr. Gwi Tinsman, OP, the prior provincial of the Philippine Dominican Province.

Decidues in the Rosary Month on the Catholic calendar. It is devoted to the Blessed Mother under the title Our Lady of the Rosary in reference to the Rosary devotion promoted by the Dominicans, one of the most influential religious orders in the history of the Church.

The Dominicans were among the pioneer missionaries who effectively evangelized the Philippines to make it the biggest Christian nation in Asia and the third largest Catholic country in the world.

La Naval de Manila refers to the naval battles in the 17th century between the invading Dutch armada and the poorly equipped Spanish and Filipino defenders.

The defenders prayed desperately to the Santo Rosario lodged in the church's sacristy. When they won, they established their victory to the intercession of the Blessed Mother.

The feast of La Naval has been celebrated with much pomp and pageantry since National Artist for Literature Nick Joaquin called it the biggest fiesta celebration in Intramuros.

José Rizal prayed at Santo Domingo, a splendid Gothic church at Real Time, and the shrine of La Naval before going to Spain to continue his studies in the 19th century.

In 1941, the Dutch invasion was destroyed at the outbreak of World War II. But the Dominicans had kept the ivory icon in the Santo Domingo vault, where it was protected from Japanese hands.

They transferred the icon to their Santa Rita Dominican Church at the University of Santo Tomas (UST), which had been made an internment camp by the Japanese.

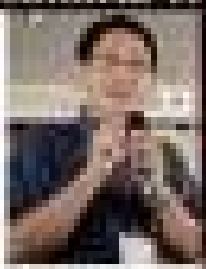
After the war, the Dominicans rebuilt the church in Quezon City in a spectacular procession, they brought the icon of La Naval to the new church in 1957.

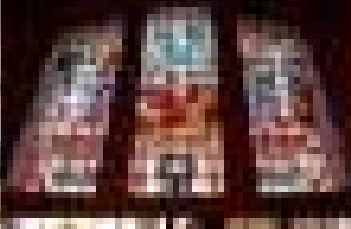
The National Museum declaration recognizes both the towering edifice in his, Mon Heights, Quezon City, and the exquisite

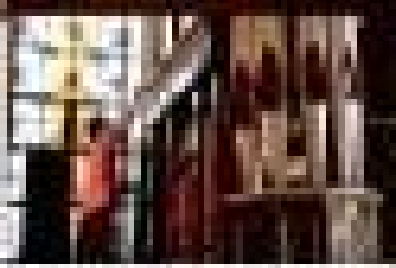
SANTO DOMINGO 11

SANTO Domingo Church facade

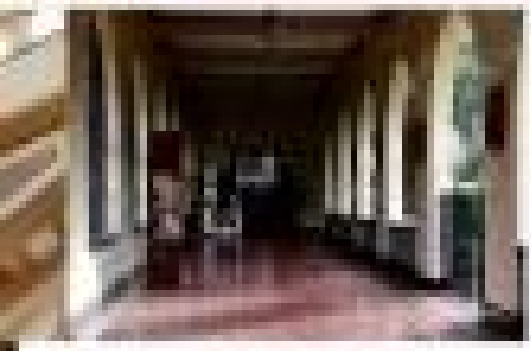
Santo Domingo Church, La Naval de Manila shrine to be named National Cultural Treasures







Abim Villaruel's 'Optiks' pits pai



Heritage of Santo Domingo: Seen and unseen

Designed by architects and designers and containing works by Kidlat Tahimik, Manuel Conde, Carlos "Botong" Francisco and Victorio Edades, all discovered by the members of UST's Architectural Heritage Program is one of the most important contributions of the Dominican order in the Philippines.

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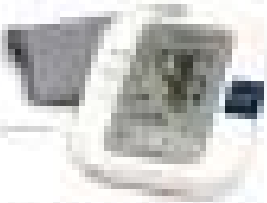
It's smarter to monitor your blood pressure before you fall sick.



nting against photography

RAMON ORLINA (seated, third from left) and National Artist for Architecture Melecio Magno (seated, right) join the NCCA Commission on Galleries, which includes Shireen Shoe (seated, left) of Galeria Duemila

JIMY Lana

EDDIE Romero

JACK Tarnoo

ManilArt 2012 shows past, present and future of Philippine art

By Lester G. Ballaran
Circle Reader

Top artists and galleries join forces in the biggest showcase of Philippine art

RONALD MINTRAM "Crack in the Wall" (2001) depicts two nude males sliding a boat, evoking the nature this inaugural art fair.

The festival just is bound in the Philippines' view in Malaysia, hence the name. The art was held annual to be of late; Manila has passed. The painting, therefore, evokes the past, present and future of the Philippines, much like art, which has problematic roots and contemporary relevance.

Makiboo is the banner painting of the fourth installment of the Manila International Art Fair (ManilArt), the biggest gathering of art galleries in the Philippines. It will be held at the SM Mall of Asia's SMX Convention Center, Oct. 2-6.

"We name 'Crack in the Wall' as this year's banner because we see it as a modern interpretation of bridging the old and the new," said Anna Karin, Gallery Maya proprietor and ManilArt Committee for Culture and the Arts' (MCCA) National Committee on Art Galleries head. "Because we have in the art work rich past and want to take it to the contemporary aesthetics that will be our bridge to the future."

Rolando Dedal the record of getting the highest bid in the Sotheby's Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Boutique auction in Hong Kong for his work "Grandparents," at HK$4,420,000 (over a million P8 dollars) in 2011.

Projecting to the world

Inspired by the first modern Western and the achievements of other Filipino visual artists abroad, the year's ManilArt seeks to better project Philippine artists to the world.

ManilArt will be a venue that would open doors for Filipino artists around the globe. On Oct. 4, 7 p.m., there will be an International Night where expats, diplomats, attendees and other foreigners will be invited for a special viewing. According to Lasaten, this would be a tool for the promotion of the works of Filipino artists to foreign communities.

Sculptor Romeo Orbito, one of the organizers of ManilArt, believes the talent of the Filipino artists can level with artists abroad and even be better.

"Competing in the venues of Singapore and Malaysia, I think the Philippines is quite ahead. I don't mean to brag, but let's have 'Pantaon at sa sa mundo," Orbito said. "It's not easy to gain high bids in an auction, because you have an international audience. Malaking mong mag thubuga talagang Pilipino."

Biggest fair

ManilArt will feature 46 galleries from around the country such as Looking for Juan, Gallery Big, Secret Pools, BV Bluish Art Gallery and Tam-awan Village.

It will showcase the works of 400 Filipino artists, from the late Cesar Ollendo to best-selling Dominic Rubico and Signature Art Gallery artist Richard Cornelio Grand Prize winner Rodel Tapaya.

The masterpieces of National Artists Ang Kiukok, Arturo Luz, Anq Kiukok, Jose Joya and Abdulmari Imao will also be displayed.

Viewers, curators and artists will be able to interact when Robert Guerra, curator of the Ateneo University gallery, conducts a walking tour on Oct. 5.

The fair will also feature the Artpace arts Project. An auction of artworks that the artist-proponents will be held on Oct. 6 at 6 p.m.

There will also be animation and comic illustration workshops, art demonstrations and lectures. A special event will celebrate the art of Varnara.

During the press conference at Bonifacio restaurant in Greenhills on Sept. 26, National Artists Ildefonso Santos (Architecture) and Eddie Romero (Cinema) showed up to support their support for the visual arts and the arts fair.

ManilArt is organized by the Republik Art Gallery in cooperation with support from the DOT and Contemporary Art Philippines magazine. For inquiries, call at 552-5200 loc or e-mail manilart2@gmail.com.

"DAISY Hat"

"FLOWER Catcher"

New show displays Migs Villanueva's engaging minimalist aesthetics

INTELLIGENCE DEBITS and Ateneo Award-winning artist Migs Villanueva explores the crossroads of childhood nostalgia and superstitions, as well as the minimalist aesthetics of Japanese "wabi-sabi" in his show "Once upon a (Shapshots," in this year's Manabil.

The exhibit is in partnership with Galeria Francesca and is presented at Booth 19, SM Convention Center, Oct. 2-6.

Building on a successful practice that visualizes our history to encompass the fleeting visions of our childhood, Villanueva's images have now worked with the ever-as subtle feeling of transience.

The exhibit takes the experience of area and the flow of wishes and how it, with the idea of beauty and childhood.

In "Spell Heaven" is the quintessential Migs Villanueva piece, with its figurations of children caught in a candid moment of play. The composition, while keeping with the classic Villanueva aesthetic, has a touch of mystery, but lightens—and the backdrop is a mixture blur of memory and emotion.

For inquiries, call at 552-6999867, 5704465; e-mail galleryfrancesca@yahoo.com.ph or gallery@artsocial.magnifymail.com. *Galleria Francesca is at Unit 2B and 3B, Primary Wire, 3rd, Bonifacio Technology Park, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig.*

Fair pays tribute to Joya

"CHAIRMEN Present": Judy "Rona" Light from Joya

the Ateneo Rizalista of 1966, president of the Art Association of the Philippines, 1965-66 chair, Philippine artists delegation to China in 1979, and chair, Board of Regents of the Intercontinentals, 1986-1995.

He won first prizes in the Shell Student Art Contest in 1953 and the AAP Annual in 1958. He was named one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men in 1961; Most Distinguished Professorial Award in Fine Arts in UP in 1973; Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts from France in 1987; and Cowrie CCP Award for Visual Art in 1990. He was posthumously declared National Artist for Visual Arts in 2003.

The retrospective show assembled an impressive array of the artist's family, and his twin brothers, will display a record of his travels for much of the last 1970s together with a dozen of the last sketches of his many travels abroad. It will also launch the fundraising efforts from the show's proceeds for benefits and the Association for Philippine Cities Environmentalism.

Call Gallery Big at tel. 4667751 or 0922.806.4009.

Spanish artists at Avant-Garde Cloche

"Presence / Transformation," a group show now until Oct. 27 at Avant-Garde Cloche (2289 Pasong Tamo Extension, QPAC 07 Bldg., Makati. *Tel. 8170547, 0919-2438823, e-mail bogo@artsocial.magnifymail.com.* Spanish artists Angeles Ingelda, Pilar Albarracin, Javier Jose Valeria Sakardiaz, Charina Cotoc, Jonathan Lacalle, Elke Lad and Jose Pillar. The artists explore themes related to the artists and culture in Catalonia, between Spain and the Philippines.

"NAKED Grabado," by Mike Luad

"CONTEMPORANEO" Sanfrgrida," by Angeles Agrela

Visual Arts

Video art at Ateneo

The Ateneo Art Gallery will launch its Video Art Program with the exhibit, "Modes of Intimacy: The Inaugural Collection of Video Art." It opens Oct. 5, 6:30 p.m. at Ateneo Art Gallery (2/F, Rizal Library Special Collections Bldg., Ateneo de Manila University, Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights, Quezon City; tel. 4266486; email ateneoartgallery.org).

Through a grant from Silver Lens, the museum has assembled its largest collection of leading Filipino video and new-media artists, featured in this exhibition via a preview by Martha Atienza. Susan Aguilar, Kim Cabrera, Ed Castillano, Manny Montelibano, Kaloy Obsidian, Mark Salvatus, Jerry Tan and Elmer Tanguanco.

Exhibit Closing Date: Exhibition continues to talk on Oct. 6, 2 p.m. Exhibition is open from 10.

Museo Parebata holds art auction

"Art and Diplomacy," a fundraising event to benefit Museo Parebata Foundation, Inc., is a talk and auction of works by top artists such as Ben Cab, Anita Magsaysay-Ho, Jaume Sanso, Brenda Fajardo, Araceli Sans, Napoleon Abueva, and others by Jose and Rosario Parebata. It will be held on Oct. 2 at the Bonifacio Global City. Tickets are P2,000 per head and P20,000 per table. For reservations, call 843-0018 or e-mail museoparebata@yahoo.com.ph or museoparebata@gmail.com. Visit www.museoparebata.org, www.facebook.com/museoparebata.

"MADONNA," by Ben Cab "BANGANIS," by Araceli Sans

Julies Legaspi at Heart Center

Julies Legaspi, The One-Man Show, "which opens today at the Art Gallery of the Philippine Heart Center, introduces to the art world a rising new voice.

"SUSTENANCE"

The exhibit will consist of stunning soft pastel drawings and oil paintings of nude and still life of Legaspi, a Fine Arts graduate of the University of the Philippines. The show will run until Oct. 20.

Group exhibit in Intramuros

"Creative Touch," a group exhibit featuring artists Gil Galicia de los Santos, JP Zobel de Ayala, Lena Bautista, Jo-Ann Veloso, Mr. SOTO, e-mail galeriapinto@yahoo.com), Pedro Gaerlan, Alfredo Paul Buendia, Jaime Leon, Bel Fernandez, Elvie Peredo, Jericho Sto. Tomas, Rosario Bautista, Sheryl Salgado, Vic Silvar, Clarissa Hontiveros, Beth Bravo, Jaime Medina, Arnel Severo, J. Gilbert, Rosenkreutz Rivas, Jun Tan, George Calimoso, Mitch Cleofas, Sheya Sierra de Leon, Romeo Lucas, Glynn Bautista, Chris Rivera and Rizal Medina. All the works opening were Christian in spirit and most of the artists are members of the Intramuros Artists Association. gallery manager Milagros F. Luna and Pinto Art Society member.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Dennis G. Velarde

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Ryan Eigenmann HEARD

ACTOR Ryan Eigenmann explained how his work has been affected by the motorcycle ban on bikes: "Actors live while for work. My ever-done 'Magdalena' has many out-of-town calls. You could really feel the impact because you have to fit your task every three days. I will participate by doing my voiceover/video whenever I need to via email emails." **Maverick Dee**

Grace Lee weathers high-profile entanglements

By Reuters San Diego Jr.

TV HOST Grace Lee did a lot of growing up this past year—a rollercoaster ride that saw her gaining sudden fame due to her widely reported romance with President Aquino.

The Korean TV personality admitted: "I learned that when we go through trials, we should remember, and rely on, the things we already believed in when we were younger."

The resulting fame and controversies could have been daunting. She said it was important for her to stick to the values that her parents had instilled in her.

"I realized that God would use [my] experiences in your life without a purpose," she told the Inquirer during the launch of her latest endorsement deal, with Korean

GRACE LEE

Indie star feels challenged by coming television work

By Marinel R. Cruz

ACTRESS Mercedes Cabral, who attended the recently concluded 2012 Venice International Film Festival on a cast member of the Bollente Mendoza film "Thy Womb," reported first a member of the audience had walked out of the movie's special screening.

The viewer reportedly couldn't stand watching a very graphic scene of a circumcise daughter of cattle.

"The Italian audience is very weak and blunt. If they people don't like your work, they will really make it known. The killing of cattle is really one of the strands of the Bodjao tribe's in Mindanao). I understand that viewers's reaction. I myself couldn't stand looking at the scene," Mercedes told the Inquirer.

MERCEDES Cabral in "Thy Womb"

Like the French

"Thy Womb" is the story of a Bodjao midwife (Mercedes) who cannot conceive a child. Eager to please her husband (Bembol Roco), she arranges for a young woman (Jessa Zaragoza) to be a surrogate mother. She seeks partners of young Bodjao bride.

"The Italians are very similar to the French. They same rule, Inhumanity also any publication—if they don't like your film, they will become rude). During the press conference we attended, most of the questions were for the director and about the film. They didn't care about the actors, but [they did care] about the actors' work and how they prepared for their characters," she noted.

Mercedes first joined Mendoza in the 2008 Cannes IFF in France for the film "Serbis." She returned to Cannes the following year for Mendoza's "Kinatay," which won for the Jubilee for best director honors, and for Eastern Dark Chan-wook's romantic film "Thirst" (also as part of its cast). In 2009, Mercedes was invited to attend the Asia Pacific Screen Network at the Busan IFF in South Korea.

Venice highlights

Asked for more highlights of the Venice IFF, Mercedes recalled the long standing ovation that "Thy Womb" received after its gala screening on Sept. 6. "The people stayed until the end credits. When the theater lights were finally turned on, they all stood up and applauded for the four or five [or] four minutes," she said. [Mercedes attended the festival with] Bollente, Nora and Lav[...]

She continued: "It was overwhelming! While it went on, I thought about how sad it was that most Filipinos didn't support their own films. Projects like that first have to win awards abroad to be appreciated locally."

Extreme reactions

Mercedes added: "I was told that, as in Dr. Zsuzsi's (Bollente's nickname) earlier movies, reaction to 'Thy Womb' were extreme—people either really liked the film or hated it. I personally think Ms Mon portrayed her character very effectively. Most people in the audience were amazed to learn about the culture of the Bodjaos."

Mercedes said like the day ago to Indy was recently week. "We walked the red carpet and attended press conferences. We didn't have time to watch other films. We had two, three only on the fourth day. On the 80th [day], it was time to head to the airport," she recalled.

The actress recounted that she learned a lot about Nora after working with her on the set on Shanghai Island in Tawi-Tawi. "The

MORE SO

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BY JIM TOOMEY

DUSTIN

BY STEVE KELLEY AND JEFF PARKER

TULDOK

BY MARA CELI

HOROSCOPE

ARIES (March 21 to April 20) It is a positive sentiment on that this week, you'll find it easier to be optimistic and hopeful about your future. Lucky color: Green.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Continue to look for ways to boost your spirituality, because they pave the way for a better year (also 2013). Remember: You prefer a spiritual aspect of the zodiac.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Because Jupiter is in your opposite sign, you may feel that you need to be in the know more! Check your good friends, and make decisions at it.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) It's appropriate to feel more confident or willing to explore your inner being. This is happening for all Cancers this year, and it's a good thing.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Your personality rating is strong, which is why you'll find others approaching with romance, and it helps a lot that the folks and romantic fantasies others surround you this year.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) You find that there is a decade you have your best chance ever to get your name up in lights. Remember your reputation in the business you are!

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) While every opportunity to improve your finances is a good one, it's also very important to keep an even more cautious outlook your personal. Publishing, higher education and the media are important.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Gifts, gumption and luxury from others will come in pro-rata and well into 2013. This means you will benefit from the wealth of others. Be strong!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Romances and close friendships will be a source of pleasure and enjoyment for you this year (and into 2013). Those who marry now will marry someone fabulous in love.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Look for ways to improve your health and plan to improve your job. Decisions they want. The lucky influence continues until the autumn of 2013.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Romances are here where your vocations and fun decisions, poised for you this year and see. This is a huge time for open Aquarians.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) This year, for months, you perhaps one of the best times to work than a decade for. Your urge to check out real estate deals. You purchase keeps of a home and with family relationships.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Pesky chimes of the times

VIEWFINDER

Jocelyn C. Valderrama

GIRL phones and their vast repertoire of ringtones have become much a part of our daily lives that they're disrupting not just people's conversations, but symphonic concerts as well.

Not too long ago, a concertgoer's unlikely blasting ringtone reportedly stole the show from a performance at New York's respected Lincoln Center, irritating the orchestra conductor so much that he didn't hide it. The eavesdropping crowd that packed the hall particularly intrigued our curiosity, so we decided to look into the matter.

As the latest wrinkle in the pop-social-tech-e-hurdles-suffered the likeable bemused soundtracks of lovers of classical music, people who make it a point to keep track of whatever else has been happened to sound over-ear that this is by no means the first time that cell phones and their ridden, rare, wrath and bleats have gate-crashed some pretty hugely important occasions like Barbra Streisand's inaugural speech at an awards show, one of former US President George Bush's more embarrassing and Sarkozy's Hollywood just in the wee morning hrs portraits by crooning to Carla Bruni-Sarkozy for her stellar performance in "Shakespeare in Love."

Tacky trend

When will the tacky trend become so pervasive that it finally feels over? Soon, if the new website encouraging the improper interruptions is any indication. Told just as they're announcing their whereabouts evident?

Dutch to tell, however, unwanted interruptions at intimate concerts are nothing new for local classical lovers. Long before the cell phone was invented, there were a time in the '60s and '70s when an unwelcome interruption like that of classical music would signal concerts—and regularly interrupt them—with the unwanted sound "boo" the would occasionally let loose with a run of "hell let me" that sounded like "hell").

Well, you can imagine the amusement and consternation the first time we heard, but unexpectedly go "ha" at a concert? When, we wondered, was going on? But, other music lovers were used to the spontaneous exclamations and took them, most benignly—and even heard the source his audience heard the up loud because it regular part of Manila's cultural scene?

But there's more: One fine night, we were enjoying an... what concert and, what do you know, aside from our "ha" exclamations, there was another "unique" person in the concert hall, and he had a cell phone with us, which went something like "ti!".

Well, that was the most unforgettable concert we had ever attended, aside from our "ha" exclamations, there was another "unique" person in the concert hall, and he had a cell phone with us, which went something like "ti!".

It wasn't that the two "exclamations" seemed to distract us or call attention to themselves, they simply couldn't help it! But the "interruptor" sounds they made were truly one for the pop-cultured books!

My don't know what happened to those Ooo "fan-zoning" posts—maybe they finally got wise their revelation, or realized that they were stealing the show but nonetheless and just enjoyed themselves by listening to classical music recorded locally in any case, thanks for the unique musical entertainment, Mister Hand-Up!

Grace Lee ...

From page G1

someone Chef's Noodle. "I also found out who my real friends were. Lastly, I learned that it's always important to love yourself first."

People-pleasing that she was, she tended to prioritize others' happiness before her own. Now she realizes it is paramount to have a healthy balance to all her personal relationships. "I wouldn't want to lose my identity," she said.

As if the Persidential countdown wasn't enough, she figured in a nasty feud with former radio colleague Angeli, reports can't be more juicy.

She stated that 2012 is a dragon year and those born in the year of the dog, like herself, are believed to be in a disadvantage. "But I don't think that was being unlucky. I mean I've matured. It's taken me this year. I became more understanding and acquired maturity."

Through all the drama, she insisted, she remained optimistic. "I'm still a hopeless romantic." She has learned to let "love angry more forgiving" as well.

In the past year, she was deluged with intrigues left and right. "All sorts of weird things out. My friends and real people I loved in the drama part were dragged into the fray."

Current focus

She avoided gauging upon serving the Mel-Jane-iconic of Good Morning Philippines by Kuya Kim Atienza, she claimed: "Before, During and After the Presidency." "My initial reaction was: OMG! Oh, my God!"

But in the end, she reasoned that the voice blurb aptly summed up the hectic year that's in: "It's been intense."

There's fun, she'd realized as we parted ways. For the love, she moved to TV5 of to Cornerstone in GMA 7.

She is now part of the morning show "Good Morning Club" on TV5 and co-hosts (with Martin Andanar) the newscast "Aabot sa mga Balita" on diyaryo TV (TV5's Filipino channel).

She was overjoyed to make the big switch because TV5 allowed her to produce and "showbiz and entertainment" and hands-on stories.

"I am now working under the team of (TV5 news head) Leslie Caballero," he raved.

Coincidentally, it was Valdez who interviewed Lee at the height of the brouhaha over the Presidential nominee early this year.

Dropped her TV work, more website is in the works (www.gracelee.com), too.

SHANG CINEPLEX

1 KUNG FU PANDA 2 3D
3:30, 4:30, 7:30

2 MEN OF HONOR A TRUE STORY
3:30, 5:45, 7:30

3 THE INTOUCHABLES
(2D, 4:00, 6:40, 9:20

4 RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
3:00, 5:20, 7:30

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ILOILO

PALAWAN

Indie star feels . . .

From page G1

Isla Okorie welcomed a very demonstrative. She never made us feel that she's the country's superstar. In fact then, we loved to hear her talk. "There were no rules. We could talk, cuss, cry, we were honest. We were honest for a couple."

Mercedes added: "There were no secrets of us as in our house. We all slept on several mats. One time, I was picking it is heavy because we were scheduled to leave for another set location. She invited me to have marienda with her. I said I'll just follow her after. I'm done packing my stuff. After a few minutes, she came back with a bowl of biscuits and a can of evaporated, so I dropped everything and joined her."

Mercedes is in the cast of the Cinemalaya Libreon indie film "Sibuyas," a story to the 2012 Cinema One Originals Film Festival in November. On television, she will join the cast of Star Cinema's afternoon series "Magdalena," which premieres on GMA 7.

Recent girl

"I have yet to start taping for the show. All I know about my character, Kim, is that she's an escort girl. She was interviewed by the young Sierra (Pinky Rigonan) and, with whom she's in love, in train Magdalena (Rita Avila). But, it pokes out that the spotlight is turned on her (Kim), but the two will eventually become close."

Mercedes said she found acting on television very challenging. "I admit to having a hard time doing TV acting because I got to send it to making in the movies. In film, you already get a full grasp of your character just by reading the script. On TV, you discover stories bare. You get new scripts every week."

She continued on: "I'm excited to be working with Derek Ekin. She's an actress to me. She is very detailed. She would explain to me what exercises she push from your classroom for your acting scenes. That's important for an actor."

"Magdalena" also features Sam Ignacio, Pancho Magno, Frederick Lee, Ritoni Isabel Legaste, Jana Adlawan, Alan Paule and Gleb ordiales, among others.

E-mail: mercy@inquirer.com.ph

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NEWPORT CINEMAS

1 Dredd 9:00am • 11:25am • 2:00pm
The Mistress 4:10pm • 6:35pm 9:00pm • 11:25pm

2 Hotel Transylvania 9:10am • 11:15am • 1:40pm 3:45pm • 6:00pm • 7:45pm 10:00pm • 12:05am

3 The Perks of being a Wallflower 9:00am • 11:20am • 1:55pm 4:30pm • 6:55pm 9:30pm • 11:55pm

Hotel Transylvania 3D 9:20am • 11:30am • 12:30pm

4 Of All the Things 10:40am • 1:30pm • 4:30pm 7:35pm • 10:30pm • 12:30am

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

1 Hotel Transylvania 7:30pm • 9:30pm 11:30pm • 1:30pm

The Perks of being a Wallflower 3D 2 2:00pm • 4:45pm 7:30pm • 10:15pm

3 The Mistress 2:40pm • 5:20pm 8:00pm • 10:40pm

4 Of All the Things 2:10pm • 5:35pm 8:05pm • 10:40pm

5 Dredd 2:30pm • 4:50pm

The Mistress 7:20pm • 10:00pm

6 Hotel Transylvania 3D 2:55pm • 4:55pm 7:35pm • 10:30pm

7 Resident Evil 5 1:40pm • 4:30pm 7:15pm • 10:00pm

Lucky Chinatown CINEMAS

1 Of All the Things 10:30am • 12:40pm • 2:50pm 5:25pm • 7:40pm • 10:00pm

2 Dredd 3D 10:00am • 12:00pm

The Perks of being a Wallflower 3D 2:00pm • 4:35pm

Resident Evil 5 9:00pm • 11:00pm • 12:00am

3 Hotel Transylvania 3D 10:00am • 12:10pm • 2:15pm 4:30pm • 6:30pm • 8:35pm 10:15pm

4 The Mistress 10:30am • 12:30pm • 2:30pm 5:15pm • 7:40pm • 10:00pm

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RESIDENT EVIL 5 2:30, 5:30

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2:25, 5:30, 9:45

PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER 2D 2:00, 7:10, 9:45

THE MISTRESS 4:25, 9:20, 7:30, 9:40

OF ALL THE THINGS 4:20, 7:00, 9:50

TWISTED 2:30, 5:30, 9:45

QUICK 4:20, 7:00, 9:50

ALL MALL

OF ALL THE THINGS 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:35

THE MISTRESS 2:30, 5:30, 8:30

RESIDENT EVIL 5 4:45, 7:45, 10:45

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 1:20, 3:30

QUICK 1:30, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50

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GLORIETTA 4

1: HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 3D
2: SIL NINA 3D
3: THE MISTRESS
4: QUICK
5: RESIDENT EVIL RETRIBUTION
6: OF ALL THE THINGS
7: PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWE

GLORIETTA 5

1: THE MISTRESS
2: OF ALL THE THINGS

GLORIETTA 2

1: PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER
2: HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA
3: OF ALL THE THINGS
4: THE MISTRESS
5: RESIDENT EVIL RETRIBUTION

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1: OF ALL THE THINGS
2: HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA
3: THE MISTRESS
4: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
5: PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

1: PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER (2D)
2: THE MISTRESS
3: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
4: OF ALL THE THINGS

MARQUEE

1: HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA
2: PERK OF BEING A WALLFLOWER (2D)
3: THE MISTRESS
4: OF ALL THE THINGS

AMARETTI AMARETTI

1: OF ALL THE THINGS
2: SIL NINA (2D)
3: PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER
4: HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA (3D)
5: ORDER: RESIDENT EVIL RETRIBUTION
6: THE MISTRESS
7: RESERVED

TRINOMA

1: SIL NINA (2D) DIRECO
2: PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER
3: HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA
4: QUICK
5: OF ALL THE THINGS
6: RESIDENT EVIL RETRIBUTION
7: THE MISTRESS

ABREEZA

1: PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER (2D)
2: OF ALL THE THINGS
3: RESIDENT EVIL RETRIBUTION
4: THE MISTRESS

MARKET! MARKET!

1: THE MISTRESS
2: OF ALL THE THINGS
3: PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER (2D)
4: HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA

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THIS boy's video contest drew ovation.

Zaijan able to balance study, play

By Allen Policarpio
Credit Baby

ZAIJAN Jaranilla entered show biz at age 7. Today he has been doing gigs in the ABS-CBN hunting series "Survivor."

Although he's been working since the child star was 11, says that he can still enjoy the things the "regular" kids do.

"I bond with my friends and manage siblings Ceejhay and Crimzy on my days off. We go swim and play or go bike riding around the neighborhood," Zaijan told us a recent press con for his primetime show, "Laarni's Time," which airs on TV5.

"We also tease each other and get into arguments," he confessed. "But after a little while, we start planning again as if nothing happened!"

Young as he is, Zaijan manages to juggle his career and education. He tapes "Laarni's" on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and studies every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. He is currently enrolled in Angelicum College's home study program.

Household name

Zaijan became a household name after topplining the drama series "Pilyo Boksor Fo." His role in that child-star biopic earned Jeanine over the kiss several awards.

On the set of "Laarni," Zaijan has impressed his costars Gina Pareño and Carmina Villaroel.

"It's hard to believe that an 11-year-old kid can turn on the set with all he does already," Carmina remarked. Gina reminded that Zaijan possesses acting maturity beyond his years. "He knows how to improvise his emotions during a scene," she said.

Carmina has become so enamored with the young actor that she gifted him with her iPad for his birthday last August. Gina gave Zaijan an iPhone 4s.

How Sen. "Lovinia" is on its third month, Zaijan said: "I'm sad that the show is ending, but I'm happy and proud that I was able to work with Tita Gina and Tita Carmina ... I will miss our tatlong (taking) second!"

Sen. Bong's blissful birthday bash

DOLLY Ann Ilarde's recent birthday bash at the ballroom of Dusitnord Hotel was a merry mix of Manila bar and politics. It only goes to show that Dolly has conquered both worlds.

Was there anything else that the birthday boy would tell Fox?

"Nothing more for myself," he said. "I'm so blessed. I just wish that my son Jolo and wife Lani would flourish in their political careers."

Why be planning to run for higher office? "I can't say for sure" he assured. "If it's the destiny, then I will pursue it."

How was his BDAY (Bless Mistake Ning Kotse) birthday going?

"Fab so far. Jackie (Judy Ann Santos) and bowing (Mr. Bebot) to the movie.

DOLLY WOOD
Dolly Anne Carvajal

to like a chess game," he boasted. "We've got all the right ingredients blended to perfection."

What could be say about his son Jolo's rumored romance with Bodi Sta. Maria?

"I don't meddle in my kids love life," he quipped. "It happens it runs its own course. Over and above being an ultra loaded rich ass, Bong's no proud Daddy.

Last Hercules was the pursuer of a divorced wife at the party.

Didn't they have suspicions political rivalry? "We're a team," Lani explained. "We talk politics at home sometimes. We support each other. We guide our son Jolo."

What was her message to Jolo's rumored girlfriend Jodi? "It's tough to be the girlfriend or wife of an active politician," she said. "You need to be extra patient. I hope whatever Jolo and Jodi (Sevilla) will make them both happy. Whoever my son loves, I will love as my own, too." Girls may come and go, but Lani will remain as his constant "PAHIMAT" no matter what.

Speaking of Jodi, I heard Bea Binene and asked if she watched Jodi's fashion show, "Women Be Careful with my Heart," Jodi's ex, Pempi Lacsamana, is now Bea's love. "I'd rather watch cockroaches," she said, laughing. Careful!

'It' kids

Hundreds of starstars flocked to the Chalk Nation Studio Studio 2012 at the Mall of Asia Arena. A celebration of Chalk magazine's 12th anniversary, the event's theme was Variety Islam. Bill Irene Myrtle Gamosa and Yves Flores slung with the Chalk bellies made the party scene exciting. Hosts were Maggie Wong and MIO KECIlo—the "It" young and the restless dualized up the list!

CHEERS TO THAT Angelica Panganiban (left) says her director Dante Mico Garcia (right) wanted her to play a character that hit too close to home.

Long day's journey in Palawan

By Rayzel Sze Diego Jr.

IRENE Skincare Dream Movie Contest—called that for biggest dream was to work on a film with a lengthy title, in the tradition of the movies he grew up watching—such as Danny Zialcita's "Gumapang Ka Sa Lusak" and "Impaktita ang Bituon sa Puting Gabi."

"My first two films had short titles, 'Closing' and 'OMG,'" he recounted. "I also wanted to do a film that's set during the pangungulilaan, 'The loneliness of the Hallowe'en kids or loved ones."

When he was a kid, he went on several pangungulilaan adventures on the island of Cuyo in Palawan. "I did research and found out there were several versions of the same tradition, set on Nov. 1, all over the country, in Ilocos Norte, Iloilo, Bacolod," he related. "In Palawan, we call it pig-baloy. In Ilocos Region, 'Broadcasting Ka Mganit Ka-ling,' there were three pangungulilaan areas."

With that in mind, he and cohort Nick Pichay wrote "Multiday Aatin, Multobang Gabi"—multiple rain, multiple kids to let loose penitence of Palawan. ("Closing" was originally set in that province.)

Biggest challenge was gathering the huge cast—consisting of 25 ABS-CBN, GMA 7 and TV5 actors (Angelica Panganiban, Elaine de Castro, Dominic Ochoa, Edgar Allen Guinoo, Sixto Cipriano, Ravel Mercurio, Oscar Gil, Sidney Gonzalez, Lou Veloso, Akihiro Gotoso, Xerxe Narciso, among others)—in short casting. (So long All Souls'/All Saints' Day break. "I had to wait for Angelica to go on her birthday (Oct. 4) to film her scene," he recalled.

Technically, November was Pangandoy's birth month as well, and he considers his connection with the pangungulilaan somehow mysterious.

Like Judy

Like Judy Ann Santos, the star of "Closing" and "OMG," Panganiban has been friends with Gloria for years. "I met her when she was just 12," he recalled.

That bond plays out in an indie film for a long time. When Gloria first presented the script to her, Panganiban wanted to play a different character, the crippled rocker. "I insisted that she should portray the boy version's daughter."

At the film's sneak preview at the Greenhills's first last July, Panganiban was nervous. "I couldn't remember what I did in the movie," she admitted.

It was because she and most of the cast members were improvised, in keeping with their characters' lowbrow of some during the shoot.

"It was something I wouldn't be able to do in my usual projects on TV and in the movies," Panganiban remarked.

Gloria shot for 13 days in Palawan and Cuyo Cays in Manila. Post-production took longer. Shoot a year, he said.

The film took months to finish because Gloria decided to sprinkle animated elements throughout the film, with the help of the animation firm Happy Boy.

Yanga's Moo, production company Pinoyanimalia will release "Multiday Aatin, Multobang Gabi" in commercial theaters on Nov. 7.

Pangungulilaan plans to have a series of trick-or-treat premieres during the Nov. 1 holiday in Boracay, Palawan and Puerto Galera. The soundtrack will be performed live during the premiere. Mic Ilo's reading hardcore," he explained.

Pangandoy, also established a song to the soundtrack entitled "Kaluluwa." Pangandoy wrote the lyrics and Gloria, who sang it, composed the music. Gloria and her band Gelaya performed "Sesh Till Dawn" and Myra David-Ruaro (formerly of Parokya) sang "Kiss Ka ng Pag-Ibig" in the soundtrack, too.

'Darna & Other Idols' off the press

THE LATEST collection of profiles by Mario PI. Lasan, "Darna & Other Idols," published by Anvil, is now off the press.

Among the personalities Lasan has written about for this book are actors Marian Rivera, Gina Alajar, Pinoy Rivera, Lucy Torres-Gomez and Richard Gomez, Bong Agustinillo, Ali Sotto, Vilma Santos and husband Edu, Ralph Recto, composer Ryan Cayabyab, host-actress Maita Gomez, writers Krystine Peñaloza, Keith Thompson and Lualhati Bautista, and famous rights lawyers Bobby Tuboda and Rene Saguisag.

As in Lasan's previous collections of profiles, the book showcases Lasan's interest in people from various fields such as politics, sports and the arts.

Said fellow columnist-author Rosario Bulaong: "Mr. Filipinos are severe ... sir, insatiable gossips, and we appreciate any kind of information we can get about the people we admire (or sometimes loathe), but Mario PI. Lasan's Darna & Other Idols' puts well beyond disproving juicy factoids. In these profiles—as we marveled by the late Nick Joaquin—Lasan locates key subjects in a historical context or perspective or environment and political journalism. They emerge fallible, noble, capricious, generous, driven and dismayed—in other words, thoroughly human."

Sheila Coronel, a respected investigative reporter and Ramon Magsaysay Awardee, wrote: "Mario PI. Lasan's Darna & Other Idols' is a must-read for anyone who wants to know the stars of some of the most interesting individuals in our time, seduced by celebrity, dazzled by fame or lured by fortune. Mario PI. Lasan tells it like it is. Through these stories, these people come alive—in human dimension, not soldier in some colorful, but as they really are."

Mario PI. Lasan writes poetry, columns and features for journalistic pieces in Filipino, English and, occasionally, in Spanish. His works have been anthologized in the Philippines and other countries, and have been translated into several languages.

He also writes dialogues and video scripts, which have been produced and publicly screened. He graduated from the University of the Philippines with an AB degree in English degree. He has been an official delegate to international writers' and women's conferences.

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Oct. 5 is World Teachers' Day

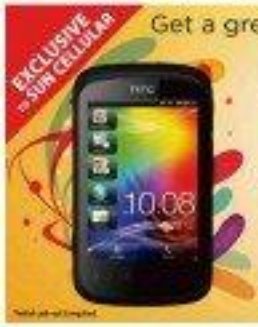
Say thank you to a teacher

LEARNING

Editor: Chole Bonoan-Fornoso

BENCH-IIE SERIAL READING

Earth Healers
Chapter 4
The Danger 'Hit'



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Teachers look back and thank their own teachers

ON WORLD Teachers' Day, which is Oct. 5, the world will beam its spotlight on teachers and allow them that rare pleasure of basking in the attention from their students past and present. For this issue, we thought we'd give one learner in Education's partner teachers the chance to honor their own teachers. On this page and on Page B5 are the councilors and guiders they wish to thank.

Cinnamon de Leon, my teacher in Science Garcia Elementary School in Makati City, who developed my interest in Mathematics and made me realize that it is the easiest subject!

— Irene G. Aguilos, Fr. Bonifacio High School

DE LEON

Elvie-Mayne Serrano, my teacher at Hermosa National High School in Hermosa, Cuyapo, Nueva Ecija, who every day planted the seed of curiosity in me and who became my role model. I just want to say, as a teacher, you're number one!

— Mae Fiebie S. Fabian, Cuyapo Elementary School

SERRANO

Fr. Wesley Cruzalegui, SDB, my former dean and professor, whose way of teaching was out of the box. His support with his students matches the book he is writing very well. He is one of the few persons who inspired me to be a teacher. His examples made me a better classroom teacher. He is not only a professor but a mentor in life, too.

SIMBAJON AND CASACLANG

Fr. Joel Comerus, SDB, my professor in creative writing, who motivated me to bring out the best in me. He was not just a professor but a father, a friend and a role model. His examples inspired me to work for young people, especially the street children.

— Ryan Lorenzo Singson, Taboy sa Ibon Boxers

CAMATA

Maria Victoria A. Mendoza, my Math (Basic Arts, Physical Education and Health) teacher in grade school. I was so shy back then. She pushed me to my comfort zone and I bloomed. She also told me that I could be more than what I am if I just believed in myself. She gave me confidence every time she bombed me in school activities and gave me responsibilities in organizations. Now, every time I see her, she is always happy and proud that I am a teacher just like her!

— Laura Barry, F. Zamora Elementary School

BARRY AND HERRERA

Ellen Merlee Talang of Dominican College in San Juan City who helped me believe in myself in grade school. "I'll never forget you, ellen! to meet an darling emma so I could catch up with the lessons in English III, and do well in the final test. "You taught me to open up, unpolished pain among my students and push them outside their comfort zones to learn new things.

TOLANIS

Adelaida L. Cadag, who was my teacher in English and Mathematics in Grade 5 at San José Elementary School in Makati City. She did not just teach us, she was also our mother in school.

— Maria Soccoro I. Bagayaua, Cembo Elementary School

CADAG

Rob Gutierrez, for making me your graduate student at Philippine Normal University (PNU). It is a wonderful experience, for helping me refine my skills as a teacher and for keeping in touch long after I have entered my master's degree.

— Marwin B. Bonifacio, Kabuwaya Elementary School

GUTIERREZ

Fabio Ildefonso Estole, thank you for your motherly care and guidance and for bringing me to be a teacher like you.

— Marinela Rodico, Sisters of Mary Girls' School

ESTOLE

Lorraine Galindo of Bicol University, who told me, "You'll be famous (in the college), you'll see." I became literary editor of the college paper, then managing editor of the university paper and even a cast member in a play.

Odilon C. Espinas, who taught literature. She opened my horizons to reading. She loved me much for me to have a lot of books."

My Sociology professor, **Leticia Abadia-Maza**, who was very smart, and my Math, Psychology teacher.

Dr. Carolina-Jose Cruz of PNU, who taught me journalism and strengthened my love for it.

Dr. Alice Ocampo, my thesis adviser at the University of the Philippines when I earned a Master of Arts degree in Reading, who is intelligent and accomplished and a beautiful person inside and out.

My other teachers in UP: Drs. Soonah Hererra, Lina Diaz-de Rivera and **Natividad Gamos**.

My English Proficiency teacher in De La Salle University, Alida Padilla, who had wit and expertise.

Gondelina Cruz, our Filipino Heritage Library teacher in Creative Writing who motivated people like me and encouraged us to pursue writing.

— Imelda Carreon Ferrer, Hen. Pio del Pilar Elementary School

OCAMPO

CRUZ

THE MANY FACES OF THE TEACHER

Going the distance for their students.

Bridebor Mingon Ryan
Bryan Ren Cagay-Carreon

For multi-graderers Bridebor Mingon Ryan and Bryan Ren Cagay-Carreon, their weekly trek to reach the children of the Mangyans is the least adventurous. It begins in Davao City with a nine-hour journey through rough and rugged roads, then some abandoned agricultural eight-seaters or habal-habal (short for "horse-habal"), a motorcycle modified to accommodate passengers on a single wood plank placed across the back seat. They go through all of this to reach the Onamlog Primary School where Carreon teaches children in kindergarten to grade two in one classroom, while Ryan conducts classes for grades three to four in another.

That's real living — but for their students it's a journey worth taking.

It's a great honor to be a teacher.

DIWA BATO BALANI

Inquirer

Playgrounds for the MIND

Editor: Grace Chapa-Mallare

PNU inaugurates Center for Teaching Excellence

SEPT. 28 became another milestone for the 111-old Philippine Normal University (PNU) as it inaugurated a new center, launched its web information portal, and signed several memorandum of agreements (MOAs) with various institutions.

Heads for the CHED PNU Center for Teaching Excellence were launched through the efforts of Commissioner Nona Ricafort-Palma, CHED Commissioner Rosalyn F. Dellosa as part of the program to put up teacher education centers from all over the country.

PNU vice president for Academic Affairs Dr. Soledad T. Cruz launched the web portal that would provide online teaching and learning resources for teachers and students.

And PNU president Emy B. Ogena signed five different memorandum of agreements (MOAs) with six organizations of Normal Schools in the country, Ateneo de Davao, the Department of Science and Technology-Science Education Institute, Caraga School, and Hope Street.

PWU's Benitez conferred *Gawad Sagisag* award

ROXBURGH in Pitcairn Islands celebrated dawn on 9PM last night, the highlight of which was the conferment of famed Sagisag Quezonianggad or Natanggulang Kabuhatan held at Bayleaf Hotel, Intramuros, Manila. Dr. Helena Z. Benitez, awarded for radio-drama, received the plaque from Benedicto Bilden, chair of the Philippine Commission on Women. Bonjoc Soriano and new board chair of the PWU, Benitez was cited for her continued support for the welfare of women through education and for being elected the first Asian, Filipino and woman president of the Governing Council of the UN Environment Program.

CEU opens Cebu campus, starts training sessions on quality management

CENTRO Escolar University formally opened its doors with a private program and the conducted-9:00 am) Non Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) program in its Cebu campus. A training session on "Total Quality Management: Raising the Bar of Excellence" was conducted by the CEU School of Accountancy and Management dean, Dr. Ma. Rowena L. Anastacio and Dr. Mario Bolivar E.

Delacruz, head of the CEU Planning and Monitoring Department. Other upcoming QMCE trainings are "The Art of Managing Philippine Tourism Destinations" on Oct. 11 to 12, and "Authentic Assessment in Clinical Competencies" on Oct. 16 to 17, for coaches, e-mail Dr. Leslie Fajardo, CEU Cebu campus administrator at pacecebu@ceu.edu.ph or contact her at (032) 917-7477.

More than 700 Batangas youth leaders convene for leadership training

SEEING the potential of student leaders as future nation-builders, University of Batangas held its first student leadership encounter with the theme "Character, Attitude, Integrity and Action: Pillars of Leadership" last Aug. 24 at the UB Pablo Borbon Main Campus. The event aimed to inspire the 700 attendees from 46 private and public schools in Batangas Province whose respective universities would benefit from fellow students. Leadership training is considered one of the most beneficial extracurricular activities an individual can be involved in while attending school. As student leaders, they have additional responsibility of making a difference in the campus and for the community.

UE CLaw bares founding day activities, slates alumni honor roll awards

BUAN Amado D. Valdez of the Rizal City of the East College of Law (UE CLaw) announced its activities in observance of the 65-1 69th foundation anniversary with the theme "We Are Warriors!" held Sept. 17, 23 to 29. A symposium entitled "UPH-UECLE Summer Workshop on Principles and Its Practical Implications" with panel of honor and speaker chair Sandi Dorf of Southern Philippines Development Authority took place on Sept. 26, 2 p.m., at the UE Manila's Conference Hall. The awarding ceremony for the Dean of the College of Law 2012 Alumni Honor Roll Awardees was presented on Sept. 28, 6 p.m., at Carnegie's Room B, Century Park Hotel, Manila. Also details and sports fest, on Sept. 27, 4 p.m., at the UE CLaw Pre Bar Review Room, Annex UE Manila, invited judges, invited guests, invited and public speaking and invited them in depth knowledge of the law. For details on UE's 69th Foundation anniversary, call 564-1497 local 160 or 301-2000, or log on at www.ue.edu.ph.

Tourism Stream program for starts at DPS to mark Tourism Week celebration

EL JUDO Preparatory School successfully launched last Sept. 11 the Tourism Stream program for the Grades 4-6 pupils and high school students during the Tourism Week Celebration. The Tourism Stream program aims to strengthen motivation and be a key program towards the global and qualitative world. With the efforts of the DPS community, the school program was made possible by numerous technocrats, festivals and different provinces like Cebu-Sinulog (Vigan City), Sagada (Benguet), Mayon's Grace (Cebu), Aklanhalle (Davao Norte), Boracay Islands and many more. This is in part of the final judging of the 10th Annual Best Tourism Practices Awards of the Association of the Tourism Officer of the Philippines that was held last Sept. 13 and 14. The outstanding annual shall be the Awards Night on Oct. 4 in Sipalay City, Zamboanga del Norte. For more information on the Tourism Stream program and the ATOP Best Tourism Practices Awards, you may call at 931-0121 local 854 or 31 or 09, and 844 3121 Tourism Stream) or you can visit our facebook page at www.fb.com/dpsbaguio.

UP Los Baños and DA-BAR welcomes new agri-biotech scholars

BINHEETSY of the Philippines Los Baños chancellor Dr. Rex Victor O. Cruz and DA-BAR director Dr. Reynaldo Eigenmann welcomed the 20 new scholars of the UPLB Graduate School and agri-biotechnology at the state university. They are Paul Rivalez, Dyanah Joy Arnoco, Jillian Tongco, Ron Brian, Paulo Jacque De Venecia, Llewellyne Jay, Glenn Ernalen Jamilla, Rodjen Carlo Lizardo, Gian Badayos, Vicente Jay Cruz, Bernice Pastrell, and Ian Jonjon Pantoja.

Since 1988, the Department of Agriculture Bureau of Agricultural Research has been granting scholarships to graduate students of UPLB to boost the country's manpower capacity in agri-biotechnology.

BRIEFS

Universiti Putra Malaysia senior lecturer visits TIP

AN AGREEMENT between Technological Institute of the Philippines (TIP) and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) to promote cooperation in areas like collaborative research, exchange of ideas, invitations, and mobility, exchange of scholars, visiting lecturers, professors and students, and other areas of cooperation was recently signed. Dr. Nooritskh delivered a lecture on "Engineering Condition Monitoring in Reality Application" at the TIP Manila Antipo Iskolar Room. Dr. Ispoldin's lecture was also intended to see the progress of the UPM students' tutorial training at the Japan Isuzu Corp. LSEC and meet with the faculty members of the Mechanical Engineering Department of both TIP Manila and TIP Quezon City. At the beginning of the school year 2012-2013, three Mechanical Engineering students from UPM arrived in the Philippines for three-months training in the country: Aliq Zulkefilli, Nurul Nabila Azman, and Nurul Aishah Zainal were sent by UPM to participate in the student exchange program with TIP.

UE professor to present paper at the PSPA confab

DR. REYNALDO G. ARCE, a faculty member of the University of the East-Manila, will be a presenter and a panelist at the national conference of the Philippine Society for Public Administration (PSPA) this coming Oct. 4 and 5 at the Cebu Normal University, Cebu City. His paper, entitled "Strengthening ICT Policy and Institutional Framework to Effective e-Governance Application in the Philippines," describes the current situation of ICT in the Philippines, with a focus on the policy and institutional framework that support and sustain its development, as well as the administrative framework governing its application for e-Governance in the operations of government agencies.

UPLB holds 94th Loyalty Day and alumni homecoming on Oct. 10

UNIVERSITY of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) and the UPLB Alumni Association (UPLBAA) will celebrate the 94th Loyalty Day and Alumni Homecoming on Oct. 10 with the theme "UPLB: Abante sa Pagbabago ng Panahon at Kapaligiran." UPLB chancellor Rex Victor O. Cruz and UPLBAA president Soriano Gonzaga are inviting all UPLB alumni, especially celebrants or graduates of UPLB on the years ending in 2 and 7, to remain UPLB and take part in the celebration. On Oct. 8, a Medical Fellowship and Awards Night will be held at the BSU Gymnasium to honor outstanding UPLB alumni. The traditional parade will be held the next day. For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (049) 536-0844 or (049) 536-0434, or the UPLBAA at (049) 536-8689 or (0920) 1 90-1681.

Ilo-ilo pinagumalon for Claret grand homecoming on Oct. 13

CLARET School of Quezon City (CSQC) and the CSQC Alumni Association are calling all alumni from CSQC to take part in the 2012 Grand Alumni Homecoming. This year's homecoming coincides with Claret's 65th anniversary. Silver jubilarian HS class of 1987 is set to host unique alumni fun and entertainment with this year's theme "Ilo-Ilonga ang Mga Pinagsamahan," on Oct. 13 at the Claret Gym. All alumni are warmly encouraged to attend the festivities. Call 921-4557 loc. 254 for details, or visit www.facebook.com/pages/Claret-School-of-Quezon-City-Alumni-Association/168018881781171.

APC dance troupe makes it to Dance Supremacy finals

TWENTY-THREE dance crews from various colleges and universities came and battled it out last Sept. 1 at the Atrium Market! Market! in Taguig City at the start of Power Dance Supremacy 1st National Collegiate Hip-Hop Dance Competition, hosted by Mabuhay Airlines, the official airline partner of the Philippine All-Stars dance crew that the pending competition organized by the ACTS Dance & Arts Academy, was a crowd full of screams and support from fans for their respective schools. The Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU), one of APC's performing arts groups, was chosen to be the final competitors to be held on Oct. 20 at the Mercy Appeal Chatham together with 15 other dance crews. The APC DC competing team, majority of which is composed of celebrity-caliber dancers, wowed the crowd with a heart-stopping piece choreographed by their coach, Mikee Cojuangco-Jaworski. The team's live energy and passionate members include Charlie Bernabe, Sebastian Angeles, Mc Donald Bedaña, Noni Concepcion, Mikaila Garcia, Kenn Gramaje, Host Ivanne, Dominic Infante, Jasper Jomilla, Christian Maglalang, Kiefa Padilla, Mardy Dan Pedro, Kendra Taganas, James Yolanda, and Pierre Torres.

Member Schools

Ateneo and the RH bill

BACK in college, my friends and I immersed ourselves in the communities of Jesuitey blessedness. We practiced at the sociologists' arguments to creating products from scrap, but we despaired over the appalling living conditions and the enormity of the task of providing healthcare and education for so many children.

Mothers tearfully said they did not want any more kids, but abstinence was out of the question, and they knew next to nothing about natural family planning. Two decades later, nothing seems to have changed.

I knew of no upper-class mother who wanted to be healthy enough, but who ended dearly died. Rightly or wrongly, her family continued her death at the side of the pill (or some thing like it) to regulate her monthly periods.

Searching the Internet, they found out that the medication could lead to bleeding, strokes or heart attacks.

I refrained from writing about the RH (reproductive health) bill because I had not yet made up my mind and heart. But I followed debates, even, especially the bayonne columns of former Law School dean Atty. Cesar Sr. Joaquin Bernas, S.J., and University of the Philippines sociology professor Randy David.

Last month, because colleagues urged me to sign their letter of support for the RH bill, I thought I should read it more carefully and reasonably. I did not sign because I was still undecided.

As a rural public figure, I also did not want Ateneo to embarrass or misinterpret my views.

I was not going to air my views until some bishops started discussing the professors who signed the letter.

Fresh air

Both years after Vatican II, I have been influenced by the religious who brought fresh air to the Church: fun to approaches to faith, never dumbed down by the hippie time. My classmates and I faithfully memorized Paul VI's "Humanae Vitae" and the immortal dicta: "Humanae Vitae" and Pope John XXIII's call for the Church to open its windows to let in fresh air.

I never felt any conflict between religion and intelligence. I was convinced my faith—what I am that I chose Ateneo over UP (my parents' alma mater). I enrolled in the intellectual discussion under brilliant and compassionate theology, philosophy and history professors, never tired of what we were taught.

Faith is not blind obedience to dogma, I learned, but is a reasoned reflection on multiple perspectives, followed by a stand born of prayer, conscience and study.

In class and in informal discussions with Jesuit professors, we were treated with respect, like the Church and Galileo. The Church may be divinely inspired, my advisers explained, but practitioners are human, with foibles big and small. My faith strengthened under their wise guidance.

The professors who signed the letter have studied extensively the economics, science and politics of reproductive health. They have wrestled with their conscience and their faith. Some have worked for years with the poor. They did not write the letter lightly.

When Ateneo president Fr. Jose Villarin, S.J., said as a university dorians did not support the RH bill, news reports highlighted his statement. He said all those who engage in the Christian formation of our students to ensure that the Catholic position on this matter continues to be taught in our classes, as we have always done."

The rest of the message was ignored. Villarin did not invite the faculty to keep quiet but said, "I expect all in the Ateneo community to continue in-depth study of the proposed bill, and to support amendments to it, always premising that such study be scrupulous or inimical from a legal, moral or a religious perspective."

Some classes were happy saying the university was finally unfolding the professors whose religious views it had long left in the closet.

The majority was aghast. Close friends asked if I signed the letter and if I was in danger of losing my job. Classmates and colleagues were astounded that I would allow myself to be bullied. Some friends asked me to pass on the confidences of bishops to the administration. A friend in another university invited me to transfer to his school, promising that academic freedom would always be honored.

But they got it all wrong. His questions would be turned out to the professors, as evidenced by Loyola Schools vice president Admu Nepomuceno. Villarin "appreciates their (professors') social responsibility and intellectual efforts, and urges them to continue in their discernment for the common good."

Dialogue

Our dialogue continues. On Sept. 24, a forum was held in the Ateneo, with Bernas, Fr. John Carroll, S.J., of the Institute on Church and Social Issues, Bishop Broderick Pabillo of the Department of Interfaith Affairs Studies, and Fr. Eric Marcelo Gendia, S.J., of the Loyola School of Theology as speakers.

You can read their views in Inkwell.com.ph/blogs/blog.aspx?id=205, "Giving them our thanksgiving moment" (Carroll, PDI, Aug. 26), the Ateneo professors' open letter (Garcia-ed, "Talking points for dialogue on the RH bill," (Gendia), reply Bernas and Carroll in "A news release, only physician glitches" (Gendia) and "Ateneo RH bill" (PDI, Sept. 28), Bernas Gendia's "But Ateneo's the CBCP support responsible parenthood?" (PDI, Aug. 23), Francisco Tatad's "Open letter in response to the 14 signatories of the Ateneo statement, 2009" (at http://franciscotatad.blogspot.com/2009/11/open-letter-in-response-to-14.html), Bernas' response to the "UP economists' "Population, poverty, politics and the RH bill" (PDI, July 10), Randy David's "Ateneo, the CBCP and the RH bill" (PDI, Aug. 1).

Dialogue and discernment are hallmarks of Catholic universities. Some bishops may be reluctant to speak out —you know because, as Carroll said at the forum, of the Ateneo Catholic Church's call for unity.

But if academic issues are off on the dialogue, then the entire Church will not only be more (even unbreathable) light.

E-mail the author at lizzie.book@inkwell.com.ph

PAGMKeith Chiang, Lenore Lagasia and DepEd technical services director Regida Morales

ASSIGNMENT: DEPED

DepEd goes Google

Text and photos by Stephen Norris A. Pudilis
Contributor

WHEN do we start a revolution? Education Secretary Br. Armin A. Luistro, FSC, the answer is now.

As the leader of a revolution, I find it "less so than I have bigger" than the entire Armed Forces of the Philippines, Luistro has urged thousands of Yuletide-cheer DepEd teachers, staff and administrators to join a "revolution" and reform the education system by supporting the latest in new information and communication technology (ICT).

Free access

With Google, DepEd recently launched an online program that would allow all its employees free access to the different services of Google Apps for Education.

"[T]he intervention [technology] can actually become a real problem if not learning," Luistro said. He stressed that "[t]here are possibilities that technology offers in terms of education itself."

Education Assistant Secretary Reynaldo Laguisa said in a press conference, "With Google Apps, all 44,000 schools, we [can] conveniently start using [for a year to streamline] communications to form the organization closer together. Engaging an e-mail or multi-million dollar software many of these communications are for collaboration technology."

He added, "With this collaboration with Google, [we will] significantly reduce our IT [cost]."

Google Apps will provide the DepEd teaching and monitoring personnel the tools needed to communicate and collaborate with each other's services and anywhere in the world, from attending e-mail and chatting to sharing teaching materials and editing reports.

"We don't want to be limited," Laguisa said. "We want this [program] to go viral."

Luistro expressed the hope that the new program would help in addressing five key challenges in Philippine education, namely, poverty, textbooks, teachers, classrooms and toilets.

He said these could be dealt with more easily and efficiently if DepEd personnel were to use technologies meant to minimize the use of the Internet and other available technology in communicating their concerns, no matter how petty, points daily through Google Apps.

Global reach

The online program also gives the almost 600,000 DepEd employees the opportunity to join no more than 30 million teachers and students who are already Google Apps users.

"Google is delighted to [help] DepEd bolster the power of the Web to work more efficiently and collaborate better," General Chairman Google Apps supporting program regional manager Eric Southwood Bain, said in a statement.

"Providing access to information and education is central to robust services, so it's very exciting to see this happening [a] role in the Philippines with this national project," he added.

DepEd employees are free to register online at http://depedwithgoogle.com, making sure to provide the information needed. Once successful registration, the employee gets a username and password for logging into the Google Apps page.

If issues crop up, a verification officer will check the prospective user's identity and single-out the status in the DepEd and contact him/her. Each verification officer has problems that may have arisen, such as long email passwords or access failure, the user can send a message to emaildepedwithgoogle.com.ph.

Google Santa Cruz of design all operations, which is currently available in seven easy-to-use browser-enabled computing devices, such as desktop, laptops, tablet and smartphones.

Google Apps services include Gmail, Google Talk, Google Calendar, Google Docs, Google Video, Google Sites and Google Groups.

To know about Google Apps, go to www.google.com/a/help/intl/en/admins/index.html.

For an overview of the use of Google Apps for primary and secondary education, visit www.google.com/apps/intl/en/edu/k12.html.

For ideas on how to incorporate these services into the curriculum through collaboration and study-focus plans, visit www.google.com/apps/intl/en/edu/lesson_plans.html.

Teachers look back ... From page B1

My teachers in Grades 5 and 6, Josefa Panes and Alma Villanueva, for their kindness and understanding, and for inspiring me to do well in my studies.
— Silda V. Legarda, Old Bahay Elementary School

The late Professor Ariel S. Platon of Pamantasan ng Maynilad (now UMak) who told us, "Don't leave teaching when people's lives." He was not only a great teacher but also a dear friend, a relative and a brother.
— Ayla Bonjardo-Sioco, Dona Teodora Alonso High School

Minerva Javier and Concepcion Salinas, my history teachers in second year and fourth year, respectively, at Pedro Guevarra Memorial National High School who influenced my decision to take up Education and major in History. They set both goals now that I'm a full-fledged DepEd history teacher.
— Erwin Arlando, PCMNHS

Ms. Galvez, my Grade 3 teacher, for teaching and showing me that a teacher is truly the students' second mother.
— Carolina Bilgera, Sisters of Mary Boysenos

My Grade 3 teacher at Nueva Elementary School in Lucena City, Ms. Pinlac — I might not have said these words before but I want you to know how grateful I am for all your kindness and encouragement that helped me get where I am now. Dios it agapeyo, Miriam.
— Della V. Sabugaa, New Galvadon Elementary School

Consuelo Saludado, my Grade 4 teacher who inspired me to be a teacher and Ms. Alabastro, my fourth year adviser, who was very motherly.
— Elvira Cacilias, Inocencio Lopez Integrated School

Teresita Asuncion, Aaron A. Medilo, Florencio B. Bonoveses, Mia Refugio, Mariquita Sayson-Sison, Estrella Alcazaren and Lilia Pedrajas, my eleven very talented teachers who have been my inspiration and are the reasons I chose this profession. I admire their dedication, perseverance and love—all of which I still see in them now that they are my colleagues.
— Emma Guerrero, E. Rodriguez Integrated School

Br. Bienvenido S. Pareja, my English teacher, college dean and idol, especially for his style of teaching and fond liking of students. Thanks for the insights and values you have shared to me. May you rest in peace.
— Chiron Quilio, Phillip E. Brown Elementary School

My grade one teacher, Rebecca Aguino Candelores. I learned to read in just two months of attending her class. I became an independent reader quickly. I also learned how class rules and soldiers were out of line more in talk to her colleagues. I won in section 11 that year at June Promoting Elementary School in Antipolo City but jumped 10 sections the following year.
— Br. Dhaldrue Tuffy Angbus I, my confessor at PNU school for training to pastor for my ministerial degree. He did and accept me and do work. He teaches me good lesson plans because he would edit them, lend me strategies and ask us to demonstrate and try to find solutions to identified loopholes.
— Marilyn Garcia, Catalog Elementary School (Dalaguete Sch)

My college professor, Isabel Baptista, an excellent Reading teacher who fired fuels in me and inspired me to always give my best. Her insights are that everything is a lifetime commitment and is not confined to only four walls of a classroom.
— Analyn Mendoza, Mariano College of Tagaytay

MOA hosts NTC culminating program

THE OLIVEIRAS' Recognition for the National Teachers Month will be held on Oct. 2, 3 p.m., at the Mall of Asia Arena, Pasay City.

This year's theme is "My Teacher, My Hero."

Expected to attend is a Department of Education officials Dr. Edna R. Cruz, undersecretary, and Dr. Lorna Dy Dino, Region III Director; Benjamin Torres, executive director of Smart Communications Inc.; and Dr. Gregorio A. Bautista Jr., president of St. Dominic College of Asia (SDCA), which hosted contests during the monthlong celebration.

The program features a competition for vocal singing and education; showdown in board-

ed to by teachers from the provinces of Cavite and the cities of Silang, Cavite, Tanauan City, Las Piñas, Pasay City and Parañaque.

The Teachers Organization of the Philippines will also launch the joint "Virtual Teacher" with Dr. Carolina P. Bonoc, president, and Rolz Adriano consultant.

Big Oliveiras plus an exposition of educational technology. SDCA will present performance numbers and a special performance by the Basic Education Unit.

Sponsors of the annual celebration include the Metrobank Foundation Inc., Network of Outstanding Teachers and Advocates, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Ilon Mendoza Foundation and ABM Network.

Awarding for student art contest on Oct. 18

ELEVEN MORE college students artists will be honored at the 48th Shell National Students Art Competition on Oct. 18 at the Ayala Museum in Makati City.

To be listed as finalists and major winners in the annual competition's five categories: graphic, watercolor, sculpture and digital imagery, which are open to current and graduate artists in the three Visayas, Mindanao, Luzon and the country's national and overseas students.

Winners will receive cash prizes ranging from P100,000 each, plaques and gifts. Schools of grand prize winners will get grants for their faculty development programs.

Calendar category winners will be featured in the 2013 corporate calendar of Pilipinas Shell.

The competition is the country's longest-running art contest for students. It started as a search for a

bench/ | INQUIRER IN EDUCATION

EARTH HEALERS

Chapter 4: The Danger

Last Monday: Jojo saw the giants undergrowth and experienced an earthquake, a foreshadowing of things to come.

By Cyrus Ricafort
Illustrated by Joseph Bravo

JOE FEROWED. Dongpet, the cat said. Tau could barely open up the door just to throw scraps, further than anyone had ever gone before.

"Well, yes," said Jojo, "what could be more dangerous than a sleeping giant falling on top of you?" He began to feel angry with Tau for bringing him here.

"Well, there's the even greater danger of the giant waking up," said Tau, deaf. Jojo nodded but hard not hated his voice above a whisper. He looked at the sleeping giant's sweaty face. Here at the very first named these had come from. Before Jojo could speak, he was gone.

He and these three giants climbed continues the same size as Jojo would have been above ground. Their legs marching bones or stinking on vast as a big guided deep by all the movement around it. They looked like fiddlers, but from the top of their heads to their toes, they were covered in

"Earth healers," said Tau. "They let's have before special among the pirates they sing them to sleep and heal their pain."

"The giants are in pain?" asked Jojo. He could believe it just by looking at their faces, the moving around when their sleep became troubled, the shower of dust and pebble as the heavy hand of one breathed and made a yawn against the cheek of another. "How do we could not? Unless you the need power and cure the Earth healers had for them. Why would they cure for these giants?

Tau waved at these Earth healers stopping lightly toward them. "Here some of them's and her brothers, Pango and Rocks."

"How are" said Pango. "There ain't much time. Too many giants have been disturbed from their sleep. If just one wakes, he'll be angry, and then we'll be a casualties."

"No, no Pango," said Rocks, "what we could destroy Mount Dako and all its volcanoes, or unleash the anew into your town. We can't predict what will happen, but the touch will be the same."

Many deaths. Much suffering? Thanya barefoot and loved Jojo. There was a hard patch around her eyes which sparkled like black diamonds. "The Mayor's cleft, he has driven it to no sleep. We can't hold out much longer, we are growing weak, and the giants are wounding and waking."

"So you want me to talk to the Mayor," said Jojo, nearly choking. He could not even remember what the Mayor looked like. The Mayor often went over Molito Village on the way to the nomenclature, but the last time the structures was so dark that it was impossible to look in. Then he was 6-6 bound by lots of big, fresh meat and everyday. There must Jojo could persuade in his mind, one chance was less dominant the word follows. Had Kilde was bad for the Mayor, he would have from the best of Bonta, except he didn't look enough and water.

"Yes, you have to try," said general Thanya. She stopped Jojo in her hands—because he was still the same size as Tau—and she stroked his cheeks with her thumbs. He felt quiet and beckoned, and left asleep with a song in his ear. And then he dreamt he was an Earth healer, trying to soothe an awakened giant. He felt himself squeezed in a strong but kind grasped.

Jojo woke in a sea of sweat, realizing at his side. "Hey! But wait!" he yelled, sitting Dako, and he set up his head. "Please was Thanya's age but no eight." Jojo's heart had already left to drive some Molito villagers to the property remained, others they could catch a ride to the mines.

And Jojo's up, "I should have gone with Thanya! I should get to the mountain, talk to the workers, tell the Mayor to stop!"

Jojo ran out of the room, and out to the road. As Ating Dalin pulled for him to come back, the earth beneath him groaned, and he stumbled. He was surprised to see that the people around him felt nothing, and went on feeding their chickens, cows, ducks and pigs. Two of the neighbors helped him up. "Are you, Ating Dalin," said Jojo, running from their group. For him they would take him back to his mother, "but I need to find Cin Mayor." They laughed at him.

"Find the Mayor" dislaced the cows, and Jojo could see them, the cow-spirits, running wrong.

"Find the Mayor?" murmured the ground, making the Cow's mind above their heads in a flurry of business. The villagers emerged laughing and looked at their mouse animals. The pigs and cows learned their heads and dropped to their bellies.

Ating Dalin, the village bell, broke appeared. Since the fight with the Mayor about the drill, she had rarely been seen outside of her house.

"We have to tell the Mayor," said Jojo.

Ating Cris nodded. She took Jojo by the hand, and together they made their way through the village and up the mountain.

"Tell the Mayor," trembled the earth.

"Tell the Mayor!" whispered the trees.

Many villagers joined after them. Elder women driving someone else's puppies, and told them to keep on. "You'll get to the Thanya matter that way."

Jojo squared his shoulders and sat to front with Ating Cris and Eddie. A few of their neighbors clambered at the back. "There's no time to lose," said Jojo.

Next Monday: The Awakened Giant

(Teachers, parents and tutors: for each chapter's lesson plan, go to www.mychalenting.blogspot.com.)

Student activity guide

Just checking

1. How does the author describe the Earth healers?
2. What do Earth healers do?
3. What is going to trigger the big earthquake according to the Earth healers?
4. Of the neighbors, who seems to understand what Jojo is going through?

To do or think about

1. Imagine you tell us Jojo something like Tau to make a safer ground. What do you say? Illustrate what you say.
2. Pretend you are Jojo and write a speech that you will give before the Mayor to persuade him to stop the drilling. Ask your teacher for permission to share the speech with the class.
3. As in all good stories, in this story the author not only keeps you guessing but also gives you hints as to what may or may not happened in the end. This device is called foreshadowing. It is also used in movies. Make a list of the foreshadowing techniques in this chapter and make predictions as to what they could mean.

Events that occur/foreshadowed	My predictions as to what will happen

Using the Internet

Make a group with five other students. As a group, look in the newspaper for stories about the real things happening in these environment. Clip the stories and paste them into a scrapbook. Inside each story, write down your suggestions to the government or the people involved about how to solve the problem.

Young students learn creative ways to link chemistry to daily life

STUDENTS of Taguig Elementary School were exposed recently to an interactive chemistry education program courtesy of BASF, the world's leading chemical company.

Some 1,000 students aged 8 to 12 were gained a better understanding of chemistry through BASF Kids' Lab and its five-star creative experiments.

BASF Kids' Lab has been bringing the magic of chemistry to Filipino children since 2009.

This year, to make the program even more interesting, BASF introduced a new experiment, "UV Investigation," to create awareness about skin protection.

Children were able to visualize skin damage caused by ultraviolet (UV) light and to appreciate the importance of sunscreen. They learned how to make their own sunscreen and use the magic UV detector, how the sunscreen filtered UV light.

Flor M. Fos, president and managing director of BASF Philippines, said the company hoped to help children understand the importance of chemistry in daily life.

She said chemistry played a crucial role in addressing vital issues like health and nutrition, food security and resource conservation.

Kids' Lab is part of BASF's corporate social responsibility activities. It has enabled more than 5,000 Filipino children to experience the magic of chemistry in the last eight years.

Children got the opportunity to learn about the importance of water as a resource, through an experiment using chemistry to purify dirty water.

An experiment on superabsorbers showed how material could absorb liquid 1,000 times its weight.

Another experiment, Paper Chromatography, allowed kids to pick out the secret behind colors.

Lydia Maria Aquino, 11, who participated in Kids' Lab for the first time, said the experiments helped her understand better the value of chemistry.

The four experiments were conducted under the guidance of the top 12 senior students of Taguig Science High School, supervised by BASF employee volunteers and science teachers from Taguig Elementary School.

PRESENT during the kickoff ceremony for BASF Kids' Lab at Taguig Elementary School were (L-R) Emmanuel Joseph Magpayo and Rica Mae Calimbas, senior Taguig Science High School students; principal Nelson Quinsing; DepEd's Dr. Leticia Bailen; BASF Philippines president and managing director Flor Fos; Taguig City Mayor Lani Cayetano; and Kgbayan partylist Rep. Angelo Palmones.

Kids' Lab was started in 2007 by BASF's headquarters in Germany as part of the company's commitment to sustainability. It was introduced in 2012 in the Asia-Pacific, in Beijing, China.

More than 200,000 children have since participated in the program, which is currently conducted in 17 countries in Asia-Pacific including Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

Visit www.basf.com.

Photography workshops start Oct. 13

THE FEDERATION of Philippine Photographers Foundation, Inc. (FPPF) continues to offer photography workshops as Fort Santiago in Intramuros, Manila.

The five-Saturday workshops will start on Oct. 13 while the five-Sunday workshops will begin on Oct. 14. The weeklong basic workshop will be conducted on Oct. 22-26.

Workshops are handled by experienced photographers. The FPPF is confident that the workshops are more and more people are going into photography because of the popularity of social networking and photo-sharing sites, as well as the growing use of digital cameras.

Participants can learn photography as a hobby or a profession. Workshops are open to students, non-working youth, housewives, doctors, bankers, dentists, engineers and other professionals.

Participants can choose to attend sessions on weekdays or weekends.

The FPPF has offices at Street Bldg., A. Soriano Jr. Intramuros, Manila, with telephone numbers 5245751 to 5245375. The Fax (mailing) number is 5244375.

Shinichiro Ishimori, National Geographic photographer Joe Rhodes and his fiancé assistant Drew Gaines, top the list of speakers at the international photographers' convention of Philippine Photo Fair 2013 to be held on Jan. 11-Feb. 3 at Asian Institute of Management in Makati City.

A photography basic class will be held simultaneously at Glorietta, Ayala Center.

Organized by FPPF, the convention will also feature world-renowned Filipino photographers.

Early bird discounts are available for those who avail of sign-up rates.

Visit www.photoworldmanila.com.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2012

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DIVISION OF MAGUINDANAO
Shariff Aguak, Maguindanao
DepED

INVITATION TO BID

The Department of Education intends to apply the sum of Thirty-One Million Seven Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Pesos (Php 31,779,000.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contracts for the works described below for the various schools in the Division of Maguindanao as follows:

Project No. PCD-MDN-2012-004
SY 2012 BASIC EDUCATION FACILITIES FUND – CONSTRUCTION OF WATERSHED SANITATION FACILITIES

Qty.	Leg. District	Name of School	Municipality	Physical Target	Approved Budget for Contract		Completion Period
					Indicated	Total	
12	1	Bulgan ES	Datu Saudi	3	345,000.00	1,725,000.00	90
	1	Dalaw ES	Datu Saudi	3	345,000.00		
	1	Datu Ismu ES	Datu Piang	3	345,000.00		
	1	Poblacion ES	Datu Piang	3	345,000.00		
	1	Sambulan ES	Datu Piang	3	345,000.00		
7	1	Bagumbayan ES	San Jacinto	2	345,000.00	1,242,000.00	90
	1	Bulakanan ES	San Jacinto	2	345,000.00		
	1	San Isidro ES	San Jacinto	2	345,000.00		
	1	San Jacinto NHS	San Jacinto	1	207,000.00		
	1	Wasay ES	San Jacinto	2	345,000.00		
5	1	Bulanog ES	Ampatuan	3	345,000.00	1,035,000.00	90
	1	Nara ES	Ampatuan	2	345,000.00		
	1	Nara ES	Ampatuan	2	345,000.00		
	1	Pasakalan ES	Ampatuan	2	345,000.00		
4	1	Pasay ES	Talayan	2	345,000.00	1,035,000.00	90
	1	Poblacion ES	Talayan	2	345,000.00		
	1	San Pompeyo ES	Talayan	2	345,000.00		
	1	San Pompeyo NHS	Talayan	1	207,000.00		
5	1	San Pascual ES	San Pascual	2	345,000.00	1,725,000.00	90
	1	San Pedro ES	San Pascual	3	345,000.00		
	1	Sandrok ES	San Pascual	3	345,000.00		
	1	San Pascual NHS	San Pascual	2	345,000.00		
	1	San Pascual CES	San Pascual	2	345,000.00		
8	1	Awang ES	Shariff Aguak	3	345,000.00	1,725,000.00	90
	1	Datu C. Piang Sr. ES	Shariff Aguak	3	345,000.00		
	2	Kamasakan-Dulangan NHS	Datu Odin Sinsuat	3	345,000.00		
	2	Poblacion NHS	Shariff Aguak	3	345,000.00		
	1	Tunggol C. Piang NHS	Shariff Aguak	3	345,000.00		
7	2	Balimbit ES	Datu Odin Sinsuat	3	345,000.00	1,725,000.00	90
	2	Cadayo ES	Datu Odin Sinsuat	3	345,000.00		
	2	Lipol ES	Datu Odin Sinsuat	3	345,000.00		
	2	Lipol NHS	Datu Odin Sinsuat	3	345,000.00		
	2	Punol ES	Datu Odin Sinsuat	3	345,000.00		
8	2	Kamakaluan ES	Mamasapano	3	345,000.00	1,725,000.00	90
	2	Dalgan ES	Mamasapano	3	345,000.00		
	2	Magabenal ES	Mamasapano	3	345,000.00		
	2	Salam NHS	Mamasapano	3	345,000.00		
	2	Sapa NHS	Mamasapano	3	345,000.00		
9	2	Lakasakte ES	Pagagawan San	2	345,000.00	1,725,000.00	90
	2	Magara East ES	Pagagawan San	2	345,000.00		
	2	Mapaki Sitio St. ES	Pagagawan San	2	345,000.00		
	2	Pagagawan ES	Pagagawan San	2	345,000.00		
	2	Shariffa Tomai M. Dalandas	Pagagawan San	2	345,000.00		
10	2	Bongad ES	Pagagawan West	3	345,000.00	1,725,000.00	90
	2	Datu Wata ES	Pagagawan West	3	345,000.00		
	2	Pamanguian ES	Pagagawan West	3	345,000.00		
	2	Salvador ES	Datu Blah Sinsuat North	3	345,000.00		
	2	Sandrok C. Piang Sr. ES	Pagagawan	3	345,000.00		
11	2	Dagamanan ES (Kabuntalan)	Kabuntalan North	3	345,000.00	1,380,000.00	90
	2	Montawal C. Pulumbarit (NEW)	Kabuntalan North	3	345,000.00		
	2	Timbol T. Mama Sr. (NEW)	Kabuntalan South	3	345,000.00		
	2	Mukalondi ES	Pagagawan West	3	345,000.00		
12	2	Bulod Sinsuat (NEW)	Datu Blah Sinsuat North	3	345,000.00	1,380,000.00	90
	2	Dalumangcob ES	Datu Odin Sinsuat	3	345,000.00		
	2	Layakan ES	Pagagawan West	3	345,000.00		
	2	Pagayan ES	Datu Blah Sinsuat North	3	345,000.00		

Activity	Date and Time	Venue
Issuance of Bidding Documents	October 01 – October 22, 2012	Shariff City Office, Supply Division
Pre-Bid Conference (open only to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents)	October 8, 2012 10:00 AM	Shariff City Office, Function Hall
Submission of Bids (All Packages)	October 22, 2012 9:00 AM	Shariff City Office, Function Hall
Opening of Bids (Packages 1-12)	October 22, 2012 9:00 AM	Shariff City Office, Function Hall
Opening of Bids (Packages 13-24)	October 22, 2012 9:00 AM	Shariff City Office, Function Hall
Opening of Bids (Packages 25-36)	October 22, 2012 9:00 AM	Shariff City Office, Function Hall

The Department of Education Division of Maguindanao, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), now invites bids for the above-mentioned works. Bids received that exceed the ABC per item and in total shall be rejected at bid opening. Bidder may bid for more or less than one location. Late bids shall be rejected. Award/s shall be made on a per item basis but determination of the LCB and award shall be on a per project basis.

Prospective bidders must have completed a similar project within the last ten (10) years from date of submission and receipt of bids with an amount of at least 50% of the ABC to be bid.

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships or organizations with at least seventy-five percent (75%) citizenship or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines.

Open competitive bidding will be conducted using the non-discretionary pass/fail criterion, evaluation and post-qualification procedures specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA 9184. Information is also available at DepED Maguindanao Division, Supply Section, Tel. No. 064-0997 or www.deped.maguindanao.

The Bidding Documents may be requested or purchased at the address/es indicated hereto upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00) per bidder who be interested bidders.

DepED Maguindanao Division reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, or declare failure of bidding at any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected parties.

(Sgd.) AURORA M. TUAZON
BAC Chair

(PDI – Oct. 1, 2012)

BOHOL II ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Main Office, Cogtong, Tagbilaran City, Bohol
Tel. Nos. (038) 411-2114 / 411-2115
Fax No. (038) 411-2113

INVITATION TO BID
IBec no. 2012-09

Bohol II Electric Cooperative, Inc. (IBec), duly registered as a non-stock and non-profit electric cooperative with its principal office at Cogtong, Tagbilaran City, Bohol, invites bids for the supply and delivery of the following:

- Polemount Transformer
- Power Meter
- Current Transformer & Potential Device
- Voltage, Ammeter, Watt-Hour Meter, Voltmeter
- Cutout, Lightning Arrester
- Voltage, Ammeter, Watt-Hour Meter, Voltmeter
- Wire, Bare Conductor
- Miscellaneous Transformer Accessories
- Miscellaneous Transformer Pole Accessories

Bidding shall be open to contractors duly licensed to do business in the Philippines and registered with the Construction Industry Authority of the Philippines (CIAP) with a valid Contractor's License and Certificate of Registration.

Bidding documents may be obtained from the Office of the Secretariat, Bohol II Electric Cooperative, Inc., Cogtong, Tagbilaran City, Bohol upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) per set.

Bids must be submitted on or before 10:00 a.m. of October 22, 2012 at the Office of the Secretariat, Bohol II Electric Cooperative, Inc., Cogtong, Tagbilaran City, Bohol. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives who choose to attend at 10:00 a.m. of October 22, 2012 at the Office of the Secretariat, Bohol II Electric Cooperative, Inc., Cogtong, Tagbilaran City, Bohol.

The Board of Directors reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defect in the bid, and to award the contract to the bidder who, in its opinion, will best serve the interest of the cooperative.

All awards of more than P5 million shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. Only pre-qualified bidders shall be allowed to participate in the bidding. Non-compliance with this requirement shall be a ground for disqualification to submit the bid.

(Sgd.) ELIZABETH M. ALBERTO
Secretariat Manager

(PDI – Oct. 1, 2012)

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Mount Polis Bonanza Apartments
#12 Lizada Street, Baguio City 2600
Telefax (074) 619 0567
Email me_cpfi@yahoo.com.ph

The Cordillera Parent's Federation Inc. (CPFI) is a non-government organization that partners with others in implementing programs and projects based on the needs and issues faced by children in deprived, excluded and vulnerable situations. Currently, CPFI seeks to fill the position of:

FEDERATION MANAGER

The post will provide overall leadership and management in the implementation of programs and projects and ensure that the capacity building activities for Children and Youth as well as the Parents Associations and Federation are properly planned, implemented and monitored resulting in quality, accountable and beneficial activities. He/she shall ensure compliance and submission of deliverables of the Federation Project Officers and shall serve as a point person for marketing activities and appropriate utilization of program funds.

Minimum Education Required:
- Candidates should have a minimum degree holder in the field of Community Development, Social Sciences or any other relevant discipline.

Qualifications Required:
- with 3-5 years experience of relevant and progressive development work experience in a supervisory capacity.
- demonstrated skills on program management, proposal development, networking and coalition building, participatory skills in community development, and child- and youth-focused organizing skills
- practical knowledge and experience in project-based accounting and financial management
- experience in Human Resource Management; and
- ability to work effectively in a multi-disciplinary and multicultural team environment.

Competencies:
- Core: networking and partnership building, critical thinking, communication skills, results oriented, people-oriented and communication skills (regional skills)
- Technical: in depth understanding of national and international issues of child as indicated by relevant laws, project/program management, community organizing, knowledge on CBCS rights, resource mobilization and management
- Universal: interpersonal skills, cultural skills and computer skills
- Critical traits: willingness to travel and service-oriented

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resume, application letter and pertinent documents through e-mail: cpf_cpfi@yahoo.com.ph or to mariecris.bilidesan@dswd.gov.ph or submit personally at Ground Floor Bonanza Apartment #12 Lizada St., Pinsao, Baguio City addressed to: NOEMIE T. LLAVAYO, Chairperson on or before October 15, 2012.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR

PROVISION OF CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE CADASTRAL SURVEY IN THE PROVINCE OF BOHOL

1. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – Region VII, as agency of the Republic of the Philippines, through its 2012 GAA intends to apply the amount of **EIGHT MILLION FIVE HUNDRED NINETY SEVEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY TWO PESOS AND SEVENTY THREE CENTAVOS (₱8,597,152.73)** being the total cost of the Contract for the Cadastral Survey in the Province of Bohol. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at the opening of the Financial Proposals.

Municipality	Scope of Work	No. of Barangays	Estimated Area (Has.)	ABC (Php)
Alicia, Bohol	Category B	15	11,830	1,269,906.66
Anda-Guindulman, Bohol	Category B	27	3,466	922,714.11
Carmen, Bohol	Category B	48	44,000	4,645,041.66
Corella, Bohol	Category B	10	2,215	737,446.02
Tagbilaran City, Bohol	Category B	15	3,000	843,631.66
Inabanga, Bohol	Category B	38	10,510	1,195,240.66
Loboc, Bohol	Category C	1	900	2,134,000.00

1. The DENR-7 BAC now calls for the submission of the Eligibility Documents for the Provision of the Consulting Services in the execution of the Cadastral Survey mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Bids shall be submitted on or before **9:00 AM on October 4, 2012** at the BAC Secretariat, DENR-7 Regional Office, Buntod, Mahayhay City. Applications for eligibility will be evaluated based on the requirements specified in Annex A.
2. The BAC shall draw up the short list of Consultants from those who have submitted eligibility documents and have been determined as eligible in accordance with the provisions of RA9184 and its Revised IRR. The short list shall consist of not more than seven (7) prospective firms who will be entitled to submit bids. The criteria and rating system for short listing are appropriate experience among Consultants' firms, qualification of principal and key staff of the Consultant/firm may be assigned to the area (ies) and contract work and relative to the capacity (ies).
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in IRR of RA 9184. Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, cooperatives, and partnerships or associations with at least 60% interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines.
4. The Prequalified Bids shall evaluate bids using the Quality Cost Based Evaluation Selection Procedure. The weights of the Technical and Financial Proposal under the QCBE process shall be 70% and 30% respectively. The criteria and rating system for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the Instructions to Bidders.
5. The Contract shall be completed in sixty calendar days (60) for Alicia, Bohol; nine-eight calendar days (98) for Inabanga, Bohol; one hundred calendar days (100) for Carmen, Bohol; ninety calendar days (90) for Corella, Bohol; ninety calendar days (90) for Anda-Guindulman, Bohol; one hundred calendar days for Inabanga, Bohol; one hundred forty two calendar days for Loboc, Bohol.
6. The DENR 7 BAC reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, declare the bidding process or part to reject the contract at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.
7. For further information please refer to:

ALFREDO P. ICOY
OIC, Chief, Surveys Division
URS, DENR-7, Buntod, Mahaplag City 6514
Tel. no. (032) 434 0114 / (032) 434 7708
E-Mail Add: picoy07@yahoo.com
Fax No. (032) 438 8109

(sgd.) **DIANA R. APOSTOL**
Regional Technical Director for Land Management Services and BAC Chairperson

PDI: July 31, 2012

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workingpeople@inquirer.com.ph
or
log on to jobmarketonline.com.ph

Republic of the Philippines
National Program Support
for Environment and Natural
Resources Management Project
(NPS-ENRMP)

CADASTRAL SURVEY PROJECT (POLITICAL BOUNDARY SURVEY)

In the Municipalities of BAUAN AND SAN SEBASTIAN (2)
PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL AND
BAIRA, PROVINCE OF CEBU
DENR, Region VII

Project ID No. 2010[illegible]
Loan Number [illegible]

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a Loan from World Bank toward the cost of the October 2010 Mindoro Phase and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payment under the contract for Cadastral Survey Project (Political Boundary Survey) in the Municipalities of BAUAN AND SAN SEBASTIAN (2), PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL and BAIRA, PROVINCE OF CEBU. (NEW Region VII)
2. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – Region VII, as agency of the Republic of the Philippines, now invites eligible Bidders from eligible countries to submit Bids for the Cadastral Survey (PSA) in Boundary Survey in the municipalities of BAUAN AND SAN SEBASTIAN(2), PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL and BAIRA, PROVINCE OF CEBU.

Project Location/Name (Municipality/Province)	Estimated No. of Brgys.	Estimated Area (Has.)	Duration (Calendar Days)
Bauan and Sandayong(Sta. Regina) (Bahia and Bato), Dauin	21	34,750	180

Bidders should have completed, within five (5) years, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible Bid to be considered in the Bidding Documents, should be for the following: [illegible]

3. Bidding will be conducted in accordance with standard procedures for open competitive bidding as qualified in the RA9184 (R.A. 9184), with some amendments, as stated in these bidding documents and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the loan and grant agreement. [illegible] Political Boundary Survey (PSA) in the Municipalities of BAUAN AND SAN SEBASTIAN(2), PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL and BAIRA, PROVINCE OF CEBU. The contract shall be awarded to the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined to have the qualifications to perform the Contract satisfactorily, and whose Bid has been determined to be responsive to the Bidding Documents. The estimated Project cost is **[illegible] PESOS ONLY (₱2,[illegible]) ONE THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (₱1,000.00)**.

Municipality/Province	Project No.	Estimated Project Cost (PhP)	Category
Bauan and Sandayong(Sta. Regina) (Bahia and Bato), Dauin	[illegible]	2,000,000.00	Category B

4. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Land Management Services, DENR, Region VII, Compound, Quezon Avenue, Mahayhay City and inspect the Bidding Documents during working days from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Attention Art Dalgo.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders starting **September 28, 2012** to October 26, 2012 from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee for the bidding documents in the amount of Five Thousand pesos (Php 5,000.00).
6. It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the DENR website (depenvironment.ph and denr.gov.ph), provided that bidders shall pay the nonrefundable fee for Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.
7. The deadline of submission and receipt of Bids (BAC) will be at the BAC Secretariat is at Capitol Grounds on **October 16, 2012, 9:00 a.m.** of DENR 7 Training Hall, Buntod, Mahayhay City which shall be open to all interested parties.
8. Bidders/Bidders must submit one Bid at the address below on or before October 26, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at DENR 7, Buntod, Mahayhay City. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in any of the following forms and amounts:

Municipality/Project No.	Cash or Cashier's/Manager's Check, Bank Draft/Guaranteed or Irrevocable Letter of Credit issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank (Php)
1. Bauan and Sandayong(Sta. Regina) (Bahia and Bato), Dauin PROJECT NO. [illegible] and [illegible]	[illegible]

9. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend immediately after the deadline for the submission of bids at the same address where submission shall not be allowed.
10. The DENR Region VII BAC reserves the rights to accept or reject bids for its award to the bidding company, and in regard to bids of any other kind for contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.
11. For further information, please refer to:

ALFREDO P. ICOY
OIC, Chief, Surveys Division
URS, DENR-7, Buntod, Mahaplag City 6514
Tel. no. (032) 434 0114 / (032) 434 7708
E-Mail Add: picoy07@yahoo.com
Fax No. (032) 438 8109

(sgd.) **DIANA R. APOSTOL**
Regional Technical Director for Land Management Services and BAC Chairperson

PDI: July 31, 2012

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR

PROVISION OF CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE CADASTRAL SURVEY (POLITICAL BOUNDARY SURVEY) IN THE PROVINCE OF BOHOL AND CEBU

1. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – Region VII, as agency of the Republic of the Philippines, through its 2012 GAA intends to apply the amount of **EIGHT MILLION FIVE HUNDRED NINETY SEVEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY TWO PESOS AND SEVENTY THREE CENTAVOS (₱8,597,152.73)** being the total cost of the Contract for the Cadastral Survey in the Province of Bohol. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at the opening of the Financial Proposals.

Municipality	Scope of Work	No. of Barangays	Estimated Area (Has.)	ABC (Php)
Lazi, Siquijor	Category B	20	10,000	1,000,000.00
Maria, Siquijor	Category B	30	15,000	1,500,000.00
Santa Fe, Cebu	Category B	25	12,500	1,250,000.00
Tabogon, Cebu	Category B	35	17,500	1,750,000.00
Tabuelan, Cebu	Category B	28	14,000	1,400,000.00
Tuburan, Cebu	Category B	40	20,000	2,000,000.00

1. The DENR-7 BAC now calls for the submission of the Eligibility Documents for the Provision of the Consulting Services in the execution of the Cadastral Survey mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Bids shall be submitted on or before **9:00 AM on October 4, 2012** at the BAC Secretariat, DENR-7 Regional Office, Buntod, Mahayhay City. Applications for eligibility will be evaluated based on the requirements specified in Annex A.
2. The BAC shall draw up the short list of Consultants from those who have submitted eligibility documents and have been determined as eligible in accordance with the provisions of RA9184 and its Revised IRR. The short list shall consist of not more than seven (7) prospective firms who will be entitled to submit bids. The criteria and rating system for short listing are appropriate experience among Consultants' firms, qualification of principal and key staff of the Consultant/firm may be assigned to the area (ies) and contract work and relative to the capacity (ies).
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in IRR of RA 9184. Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, cooperatives, and partnerships or associations with at least 60% interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines.
4. The Prequalified Bids shall evaluate bids using the Quality Cost Based Evaluation Selection Procedure. The weights of the Technical and Financial Proposal under the QCBE process shall be 70% and 30% respectively. The criteria and rating system for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the Instructions to Bidders.
5. The Contract shall be completed in sixty calendar days (60) for Siquijor, Siquijor; ninety calendar days (90) for Tabogon, Cebu; seventy five calendar days (75) for Tabuelan, Cebu; one hundred twenty calendar days (120) for Tuburan, Cebu; sixty calendar days (60) for Santa Fe, Cebu.
6. The DENR 7 BAC reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, declare the bidding process or part to reject the contract at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.
7. For further information please refer to:

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Fax No. (032) 438 8109

(sgd.) **DIANA R. APOSTOL**
Regional Technical Director for Land Management Services and BAC Chairperson

PDI: July 31, 2012

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR

PROVISION OF CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE CADASTRAL SURVEY (POLITICAL BOUNDARY SURVEY) IN THE PROVINCE OF BOHOL AND CEBU

1. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – Region VII, as agency of the Republic of the Philippines, through its 2012 GAA intends to apply the amount of **EIGHT MILLION FIVE HUNDRED NINETY SEVEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY TWO PESOS AND SEVENTY THREE CENTAVOS (₱8,597,152.73)** being the total cost of the Contract for the Cadastral Survey in the Province of Bohol. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at the opening of the Financial Proposals.

Municipality	Scope of Work	No. of Barangays	Estimated Area (Has.)	ABC (Php)
Larena, Siqu.	Category B	20	10,000	1,000,000.00
Maria, Siquijor	Category B	30	15,000	1,500,000.00
Santa Fe, Cebu	Category B	25	12,500	1,250,000.00
Tabogon, Cebu	Category B	35	17,500	1,750,000.00
Tabuelan, Cebu	Category B	28	14,000	1,400,000.00
Tuburan, Cebu	Category B	40	20,000	2,000,000.00

1. The DENR-7 BAC now calls for the submission of the Eligibility Documents for the Provision of the Consulting Services in the execution of the Cadastral Survey mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Bids shall be submitted on or before **9:00 AM on October 4, 2012** at the BAC Secretariat, DENR-7 Regional Office, Buntod, Mahayhay City. Applications for eligibility will be evaluated based on the requirements specified in Annex A.
2. The BAC shall draw up the short list of Consultants from those who have submitted eligibility documents and have been determined as eligible in accordance with the provisions of RA9184 and its Revised IRR. The short list shall consist of not more than seven (7) prospective firms who will be entitled to submit bids. The criteria and rating system for short listing are appropriate experience among Consultants' firms, qualification of principal and key staff of the Consultant/firm may be assigned to the area (ies) and contract work and relative to the capacity (ies).
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in IRR of RA 9184. Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, cooperatives, and partnerships or associations with at least 60% interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines.
4. The Prequalified Bids shall evaluate bids using the Quality Cost Based Evaluation Selection Procedure. The weights of the Technical and Financial Proposal under the QCBE process shall be 70% and 30% respectively. The criteria and rating system for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the Instructions to Bidders.
5. The Contract shall be completed in sixty calendar days (60) for Siquijor, Siquijor; ninety calendar days (90) for Tabogon, Cebu; seventy five calendar days (75) for Tabuelan, Cebu; one hundred twenty calendar days (120) for Tuburan, Cebu; sixty calendar days (60) for Santa Fe, Cebu.
6. The DENR 7 BAC reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, declare the bidding process or part to reject the contract at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.
7. For further information please refer to:

ALFREDO P. ICOY
OIC, Chief, Surveys Division
URS, DENR-7, Buntod, Mahaplag City 6514
Tel. no. (032) 434 0114 / (032) 434 7708
E-Mail Add: picoy07@yahoo.com
Fax No. (032) 438 8109

(sgd.) **DIANA R. APOSTOL**
Regional Technical Director for Land Management Services and BAC Chairperson

PDI: July 31, 2012

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR

PROVISION OF CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE CADASTRAL SURVEY IN THE PROVINCE OF CEBU

1. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – Region VII, as agency of the Republic of the Philippines, through its 2012 GAA intends to apply the amount of **EIGHT MILLION FIVE HUNDRED NINETY SEVEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY TWO PESOS AND SEVENTY THREE CENTAVOS (₱8,597,152.73)** being the total cost of the Contract for the Cadastral Survey in the Province of Bohol. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at the opening of the Financial Proposals.

Municipality	Scope of Work	No. of Barangays	Estimated Area (Has.)	ABC (Php)
Carmona, Cebu	Category B	12	1,215	1,215,000.00
Cebu City, Cebu	Category B	80	23,648	2,364,800.00
Lilo-an, Cebu	Category C	1	1	1,000.00
Mandaue City, Cebu	Category C	1	1	1,000.00
Minglanilla, Cebu	Category C	1	30	1,000.00
Talisay, Cebu	Category C	1	1	1,000.00

1. The DENR-7 BAC now calls for the submission of the Eligibility Documents for the Provision of the Consulting Services in the execution of the Cadastral Survey mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Bids shall be submitted on or before **9:00 AM on October 4, 2012** at the BAC Secretariat, DENR-7 Regional Office, Buntod, Mahayhay City. Applications for eligibility will be evaluated based on the requirements specified in Annex A.
2. The BAC shall draw up the short list of Consultants from those who have submitted eligibility documents and have been determined as eligible in accordance with the provisions of RA9184 and its Revised IRR. The short list shall consist of not more than seven (7) prospective firms who will be entitled to submit bids. The criteria and rating system for short listing are appropriate experience among Consultants' firms, qualification of principal and key staff of the Consultant/firm may be assigned to the area (ies) and contract work and relative to the capacity (ies).
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in IRR of RA 9184. Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, cooperatives, and partnerships or associations with at least 60% interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines.
4. The Prequalified Bids shall evaluate bids using the Quality Cost Based Evaluation Selection Procedure. The weights of the Technical and Financial Proposal under the QCBE process shall be 70% and 30% respectively. The criteria and rating system for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the Instructions to Bidders.
5. The Contract shall be completed in sixty calendar days (60) for Carmona, Cebu; ninety calendar days (90) for Talisay, Cebu; seventy five calendar days (75) for Minglanilla, Cebu; one hundred twenty calendar days (120) for Cebu City, Cebu; sixty calendar days (60) for Lilo-an, Cebu; sixty calendar days (60) for Mandaue City, Cebu.
6. The DENR 7 BAC reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, declare the bidding process or part to reject the contract at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.
7. For further information please refer to:

ALFREDO P. ICOY
OIC, Chief, Surveys Division
URS, DENR-7, Buntod, Mahaplag City 6514
Tel. no. (032) 434 0114 / (032) 434 7708
E-Mail Add: picoy07@yahoo.com
Fax No. (032) 438 8109

(sgd.) **DIANA R. APOSTOL**
Regional Technical Director for Land Management Services and BAC Chairperson

PDI: July 31, 2012

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Republic of the Philippines

PSALM

Power Sector Assets & Liabilities Management Corporation

INVITATION TO BID

Procurement of Services for Annual Physical Examination for PSALM Corporation

The PSALM Corporation Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites prospective bidders duly registered with the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS), to participate in and through public bidding for Procurement of Services for Annual Physical Examination (APE) for PSALM Corporation. Thereof for CY 2013 Corporate Operating Budget (PSALM Moneys) to apply the sum of Pesos: TWO MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND ONLY (P 2,700,000.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC). Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.

Bidders should have completed, within three (3) years before the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. An eligible bidder is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents. Bids/Offers submission (7.8).

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary pass/fail criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, Government Procurement Reform Act. Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) citizenship ownership, wholly or citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 9184 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138.

A complete set of Bid Documents may be purchased and/or purchased by interested Bidders beginning on 01 October 2012 Noon (12:00 NOON) 1:00 PM (Monday to Friday) at the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Pesos: Thousand Seven Hundred Pesos (PHP) (700.00 only) in cash or check. The Bid Price shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or the authorized representative. The Bid Documents may also be downloaded from the websites of the PhilGEPS and PSALM, provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bid Documents not later than the submission of their bids. The schedule of bidding activities is as follows:

	Pre-Bid Conference	Bid Submission/ Opening	Bid Opening
Date/Time	02 Oct 2012 - 1:00 PM	02 Oct 2012 - 1:00 PM	02 Oct 2012 - 1:00 PM
Venue	5th Floor Boardroom Building, 1056 Ayala Avenue, Makati City		

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in ITB Clause 18. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted. The PSALM reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

For further information, please refer to:

EDWARD S. TOLENTINO
Project Bids - 5th Floor Boardroom Building, 1056 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Tel. No.: (02) 810-8629 • Fax No.: (02) 810-8629
e-mail: edwardtolentino@psalm.gov.ph; PSALM.public.relations@psalm.gov.ph

EDWARD S. TOLENTINO
BAC Chairperson

(PEI – Oct. 1, 2012)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
LTO EL ABRA PALTOK BUILDING
Old Airport Road, Tabuk City
Kalinga

RE: PETITION FOR ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND REGULARITY (CPCR) TO OPERATE DOMESTIC NON-SCHEDULED AIR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

CAB Case No. EP-2012 NSD 0612-124

CARGOMARK INCORPORATED,
Petitioner.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of RA 776, as amended, Notice is hereby given that CARGOMARK INCORPORATED has filed with the Civil Aeronautics Board a petition for issuance of its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to operate domestic non-scheduled air cargo services. The petition was docketed for hearing as per Order dated October 23, 2012 at 2:00 PM at the CAB Conference Room, 5th Floor, Paseo City Hall in the aforesaid. Interested to oppose and present relevant evidence.

The applicant is hereby required to have the Notice of Hearing published at least once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality of the petitioner and to submit proof of such publication to the CAB at least five (5) days before the scheduled hearing.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition on or before ten (10) days from the hearing or copy of the same to the applicant or counsel at the hearing with such evidence as they may be prepared to present. Failure on the part of any interested party to file their opposition on time or appear at the hearing shall be considered as a waiver of their right to be heard and the CAB may proceed to hear and decide the application ex-parte.

Let a copy of this petition and this Notice be posted at the CAB Bulletin Board beginning today.

20 September 2012
Paseo City, Philippines

MARIA CECILIA A. CAMILON
Hearing Officer

Copy furnished:
MR. BUDDY M. PELO
President
CARGOMARK, INC.
3rd Floor, Cargo Pasco Building
Airport Complex, Pasay City

(PEI – April 24, 2012; 1 col. 6 cm.)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Strategic Communications Firm for MDG Unit and UN Coordinators Office

The Procurement and Administrative Services Team of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites local firms to apply for eligibility and to bid for the subcontract on the "Strategic Communications Firm for MDG Unit and UN Coordinator Office".

Within the UN Coordinator Office (UNCO), the MDG Group holds the mandate to promote and accelerate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the country. The UNCO MDG Group is composed of the UN Millennium Campaign (UNMC) and the MDG Achievement Fund (MDG-F). Taking off from the campaign led by the UNCO MDG Group, it is expected to undertake advocacy activities until February 2013.

For interested parties, Bid Documents (Eligibility Requirements, Instructions to Bidders and Terms of Reference) can be secured from the following address:

Procurement and Administrative Services
United Nations Development Programme
29th Floor, Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza
6819 Ayala Avenue corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
Tel. No. (632) 901-0270 • 901-0272
Fax No. (02) 901-0290 • 901-7171

The abovementioned Bid Documents will be released to all interested participants starting 5 October 2012 to 12 October 2012 only. The Bid Documents shall contain all instructions on the bidding procedures, dates and other schedules for the pre-bid conference and opening of bid envelopes, as well as further details on the scope of services required.

UNDP reserves the right to reject any or all the bids, waive any defect or informality therein, accept the bid and award the contract to the most advantageous offer to the UNDP, or act on behalf of the award. UNDP assumes no responsibility to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) JESUS DAFNILONG
Officer-in-Charge
Procurement and Administrative Services

(PEI – Oct. 1, 2012)

ISUZU

Isuzu Philippines Corporation

INVITATION TO BID

1. Isuzu Philippines Corporation (IPC) now invites eligible and pre-qualified bidders for three (3) lots of second hand Isuzu vehicles on "as-is, where-is" condition. IPC Team Members are tasked from this bid.

Lot	Item #	Vehicle & Unit Type	Body Color	Quantity
1	A	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	B	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	C	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Lot	Item #	Vehicle & Unit Type	Body Color	Quantity
2	A	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	B	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	C	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Lot	Item #	Vehicle & Unit Type	Body Color	Quantity
3	A	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	B	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	C	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

2. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect vehicles for sale during the pre-bid conference set on October 8, 2012 (Monday) exactly 10:00 AM, at Isuzu Philippines Corporation, 134 Technology Avenue, Laguna Technopark, Biñan, Laguna. Interested parties may opt to visit the venue on their own fifteen (15) minutes prior to call time on presentation and be prohibited from joining the conference.

3. Bidder's documentary requirements and other procedural requirements will be undertaken during the pre-bid conference. These requirements are:
   a. Letter manifestation with:
      i. Submission of Bid Duly Signed;
      ii. Signing of Memorandum of Understanding;
      iii. Distribution of Bid Forms / Envelopes

   Only those who attended the pre-bid conference and complied with all the procedural requirements will be eligible in submitting bids.

4. Bids must be delivered on/with no later than 1:00 PM on October 15, 2012 and must be accompanied by a bid bond / Security of Php 200,000.00. Bid bonds must be in the form of manager's check payable to Isuzu Philippines Corporation. Any other form of standard will not be entertained and bid envelopes/ packages/ will disqualify the bidder. Bid envelopes/ packages/ will disqualify the bidder. Bid envelopes/ packages/ will disqualify the bidder.

The Lord is my Shepherd
I shall not want.

RAMON B. AGAPAY, JR.

(October 7, 1942 – September 26, 2012)

Pumanaw sa piling ng kanyang asawa't buong pamilya.

Mon, Daddy, Papa Jon, Sir Jojo...
Proprietor, May-ariko, Pinto'...

Minamahal nasa puso ng kanyang maybahay na si Eva,
mga anak na sina
Brad at Maricel
Ryan at Wendy
Ria-Ria
Tin at Patrick,
at mga apo na sina Darryn,
Darius, Ild, Justin, at Khloe.

Ngayon ang huling gabi ng
Lamay ni Mon na La Funeraria Paz,
Aranzia Avenue.

Buburol bukas ng umaga,
Oktubre 2, 2012,
sa kanyang huling hantungan
sa Heaven's Gate 2, Antipolo City.

FORTUNATO H. AMOSCO

passed away in the Grace of our Lord on September 29, 2012.

He is survived by his wife **Angelita**; children **Lynn** and **Philip**; **Joseph** and **Telly**; **Melissa**; and **Fortunato, Jr.**; and grandchildren **Felix, Kayla** and **Jana**; brothers and sisters, as well as nephews and nieces. They and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Premier 1, Loyola-Commonwealth Branch until Friday, October 5, 2012.

Interment will be on October 5, 2012 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

"I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith." – 2 Timothy 4:7

Adela Catenguy Mascarqué

Joined our Creator on September 27, 2012 at the age of 70.

Her remains lie in state at St. Ignatius Memorial Chapel, Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo. Her remains will be transferred to Batangas on October 01, 2012.

Interment will be on October 06, 2012, 12:00 noon in Cuenca, Batangas.

Her family requests the prayers of her relatives and friends for the eternal repose of her soul.

ST. PETER CHAPELS

ANTONIO D. TUASON

passed away in the Grace of our Lord on Sept. 25, 2012 at the age of 80.

He is survived with Antonia Jesus, Adelaida Mariano, Pedro, Jesus and Manfred; grand children Mary Grace, Ella, Rico-Ron Andrea, Jonathan, Nadine, Rose Anne; respect the wishes to join them in praying for his eternal happiness in heaven.

His body lies in state at the Loyola Memorial Chapels at BDA corner Bonifacio Sinsi, Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City. Mass will be on October 3, 2012 at the same location at 9:00 a.m. followed by interment at 11:00 a.m.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Inquirer Obituaries

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DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS
DEATH ANNIVERSARY – RECURRING
FREE CEBU DIVISION

"I am the resurrection and life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever believes in Me will never die."
John 11:25-26

"Even when I walk through a dark valley, I fear no harm. For you are at my side; your rod and staff give me courage..." Psalm 23:4

Mariano Go Ong

Peacefully joined our Lord on September 26, 2012 at the age of 77.

His children **Rosalina, Christina, Regina, Peter Paul** and **Andrew**; grandchildren **Rachel, Richie, Lee, Claudine, Aldric, Paula, Paulova & Mariane**, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Chapel 7 & 8 of the Mortuary and Crematory of The Heritage Park, Bryant Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

Interment will be on October 3, 2012, Wednesday at Manila Memorial Park, Dumarinlas, Cavite right after the 10:00 am Mass at The Heritage Park, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

CLASSIFIEDS

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills
Mandaluyong City

CORPORATION FINANCE DEPARTMENT

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on September 7, 2012, a sworn statement was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on behalf of [illegible] for the registration of the Adds Land Incorporated Bonds in the aggregate principal amount of up to Three Billion Pesos (P 3,000,000,000.00), to be issued in one or more tranches.

According to the documents presented, the following persons are the key officers/directors of [illegible]:

1. **Board of Directors**

Fernando Zobel de Ayala	Jaime S. Ongpin
Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala	Antonio O. Cojuangco
Antonino T. Aquino	Delfin C. Gonzalez Jr.
Delfin L. Lazaro	Oscar S. Reyes*
Mercedita S. Nolledo	

* Independent Director

2. **Key Executive Officers**

Antonino T. Aquino	President and Chief Executive Officer
Ernesto B. Tan	Executive Vice President
Bernard Vincent O. Dy	Executive Vice President
Bernido Liu	Senior Vice President
Jaime Ongpin Jr. Mendoza	Senior Vice President
Sheila A. Tantiangco	Senior Vice President
Antoni S. Aquino	Senior Vice President
Delfin C. Gonzalez	Senior Vice President & Chief Finance Officer
Karlo M. Alvarez	Vice President
Ray C. Espinosa	Vice President
Augusto Cesar D. Bengzon	Vice President and Treasurer
Antonio A. Ramos, Jr.	Vice President
Ronnie K. Ang II	Vice President
Ma. Corazon C. Sison	Vice President
Anna Ma. Margarita B. Dy	Vice President
Marvin J. Cheng	Vice President
Margaret Ayala C. Lugtu	Vice President
Jaime Alfonso Zobel	Vice President
Victoria C. Ravana	Vice President
Rodolfo G. Coscolluela	Vice President
Rizza Maria T. Mantaring	Vice President
Ma. Rosanna Vitarelli-Hontiveros	Vice President
Solomon M. Hermosura	Corporate Secretary
Bella Flavia C. Tan	Assistant Corporate Secretary

The said Registration Statement and other documents attached thereto are open for public inspection at the Securities and Exchange Commission, and copies thereof, photostatic or otherwise, shall be furnished to any party upon request at such fees as the Commission may prescribe. The Registration Statement and the Preliminary Prospectus dated September 7, 2012 may also be downloaded from the website of Ayala Land, Inc. (www.ayalaland.com.ph).

(Sgd.) ESTRELLA T. CALAMAYAN
Acting Director

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Regional Office No. IV-A
37 Andrews Ave. Brgy. 0, Brgy. Pandan, Calamba City
Telefax Nos.: (049) 545-0050

October 01, 2012

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT (AEP)

Notice is hereby given that the following employment clearance have filed with this Regional Office Applications for Alien Employment Permits:

	Name and Address of Company/Employer	Name and Citizenship of Foreign National	Position and Brief Description of Functions
1.	FIRST PHILIPPINE INDUSTRIAL PARK, INC. Brgy. San Francisco, Sto. Tomas, Batangas	Ms. Kazuko Matsui Japanese	International Sales and Marketing Manager (Japanese Accounts)
2.	HAGA-JAPANESE, INC. HGJA, Rosario, Cavite	Mr. Jung-Il Hwang Korean	Finishing Manager
3.	PHIL-NIPPONDENSO WORKS CORP. Brgy. Real Mdz, Calamba City	Mr. Shinji Matsuda Japanese	Manufacturing Head
4.	PHIL-NIPPON SEIKI-RECIL CYLINDER INC. Brgy. Punta, Calamba City, Laguna	Mr. Shigeru Maruko Japanese	Supervisor (Highest Supervisor)
5.	LIMA LOGISTICS CORPORATION LTC-1&2, Lima City, Batangas	Mr. TADASHI MIURA Japanese	Chief Executive Officer
6.	LIMA LOGISTICS CORPORATION HGJA LTC-1&2, Lima City, Batangas	Mr. YASUHIRO HIGA Japanese	Senior Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer
7.	MCOB – LIMI, INC. Lima Technology Center, Sto. Tomas, Batangas	Mr. Yoshio Tsukamoto Japanese	President
8.	PHILIPPINE EPSON OPTICAL, INC. LISP-1, Brgy. Diezmo, Cabuyao, Laguna	Ms. Masayuru Kawakami Japanese	Quality Engineer
9.	YOKOHAMA LEARNING CENTER INC. Brgy. San Jose, Sto. Tomas City, Laguna	Ms. Youngsook Kim Korean	Operation Supervisor

If you have any information in relation to the above employment applications, please communicate with the Regional Director.

(Sgd.) ALAN S. ARIOLA
OIC – Regional Director

To avail of the job referrals, placement, and employment assistance services, visit the nearest Public Employment Service Offices (PESO) or log on www.bulosan.com.ph

Department of Education
Region IV
DIVISION OF BURIAS/ON
City of Mandaluyong

DepED

INVITATION TO BID

The Department of Education Division of Burias/on, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites contractors registered and pre-classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to apply for eligibility and if found eligible, to bid the following contract(s):

Name of Contract	:	Completion of Division Training Center
Location	:	Fortich St., Bonpong, Malaybalay City
Brief of Description	:	Completion of Division Training Center
Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	:	P5,000,000.00
Contract Duration	:	120 Calendar Days

Prospective bidders should possess a valid PCAB License applicable to the contract, have completed a similar contract with a value of at least 50% of the ABC, and have key personnel and equipment stated in the Eligibility Forms available for the prosecution of the contract. The BAC will use non-discretionary pass/fail criteria in the Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids. The BAC will conduct post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The schedule of BAC activities is as follows:

	BAC Activities	Schedules
1.	Advertisement/Posting of Invitation to Bid	September 28 – October 4, 2012
2.	Issuance and Availability of Bidding Documents	September 28, 2012 – October 16, 2012
3.	Pre-Bid Conference	October 5, 2012 @ 10:00 a.m.
4.	Receipt and Opening of Bids	October 17, 2012 @ 10:00 a.m.

The BAC will reserve its prerogative to/on Bidding Documents at the Office of the BAC Secretariat, DepED Division Office, Malaybalay City, upon their submission of a Request for Expression of Interest, and upon their payment of a non-refundable amount of Six Thousand Pesos Only (P6,000.00) to the DepED Cashier.

The DepED reserves no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

(Sgd.) PETER L. BELGERA
BAC Chairman

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classified Advertising Hotlines:

Head Office-Makati
Trunkline 897-8808 loc. 514, 516 & 240
• Telefax 897-8425 • 896-4427

Alabang/Provincial Branch
(02) 553-7940, 553-7944
• Telefax (02) 383-6094

Cubao, Quezon City Branch
421-0343 • 421-1420 • Telefax 912-0618

Shaw Boulevard, Pasig Branch
401-8442 • 338-4038 • Telefax 683-3843

South Harbour, Manila Branch
Direct Line 528-8213
Trunkline 525-0478 loc. 115 or 116 • Fax 528-0254

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